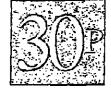
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THE IIIMES



No. 65,552

FRIDAY APRIL 12 1996



Retired early All-rounder Richard Cake could have been the next CB Fry. Instead he's joining ICI PAGE 38



Valerie Grove Why Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal will never let murderers rest in peace,

PAGE 15



FREE CONCERT Take a friend to hear the RPO PLUS: classical CDs offer,

PAGE 33

Too old to die

Hellraising rocker Paul Westerberg explains why he loves the quiet life PAGE 31



First attack on Beirut for 14 years

Israeli raid may delay peace talks

By Ross Dunn in Jerusalem and Our Foreign Staff

AT LEAST five people were killed yesterday when Israeli helicopter gunships fired rockets into the southern suburbs of Beirut in a revenge attack against Hezbollah guerrillas. It was Israel's first raid on the Lebanese capital for 14 years.

The attacks appear likely to delay the next stage of the Middle East peace process: agreement between Syria and Israel. Though Lebanon is not directly involved in the process, the country has a heavy Syrian military presence. The attacks may well give Damas-cus the excuse to delay further this next, most difficult, part of the negotiations.

The Clinton Administration last night urged all parties to show restraint but refused to condemn Israel's action. "Fundamentally the problem is created by [Hezbollah's] rocket attacks into northern Isra-el," Warren Christopher, the

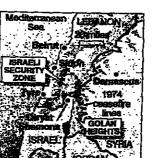
US Secretary of State, said. Those had created a very dangerous situation" and "the parties ought to recognise that the way to resolve this problem is for those rocket attacks to be stopped". General Amiram Levine,

the top military commander in northern Israel, said that the military operations could last several days.

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1.579

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, ordered the assault after Hezbollah fired rockets into northern Israel on



and killed a soldier in the occupied border zone on Wednesday.

Three Israeli Apache helicopter gunships attacked the Shia Muslim suburbs where Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hezbollah has offices and many of its leaders live, the Lebanese Army said. A 60-year-old man was killed and at least two other civilians were wounded. After a bill of several hours, an Israeli Cobra helicopter also fired rock-ets at an abandoned house in south Lebanon.

The Israelis struck targets in the southern border region, the eastern Bekaa Valley and the fringes of the suburbs of Beirut itself. Two civilians died and four others were wounded when their car was hit by a missile near Sidon. Another civilian was killed

and one was wounded when three missiles hit the village of Shur. Another car was hit in a helicopter raid in the Tyre region, wounding the driver.

A Lebanese army soldier was also killed and three were injured in a separate helicopter raid on an anti-aircraft post on the outskirts of Tyre, Mohsen Dallul, the Defence Minister, said. Israeli artillery shelling wounded two more civilians.

Ehud Barak, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and a former military chief of staff, said no area of Lebanon was immune from such attacks so long as Israeli citizens had to take shelter from Hezbollah fighters operating in the south

Hezboliah leaders threatened to hit back at Israel "and burn the earth" under its feet. Faris Bouez, Lebanon's Foreign Minister, said he was considering launching a complaint with the UN Security Council after the Israeli at-tacks. If Israel means peace then it is destroying it today and it's contributing to more tension in the region," he said. Syria confined its comments

to a radio broadcast which said that Israel has misjudged the situation and jeopardised its chances of peace with Damascus. At this stage Israel is counting on Syria's official reaction as being little more



Seven-year-old pilot Jessica Dubroff and her father, Lloyd, who were killed yesterday

7-year-old girl pilot killed in record bid to cross America

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A SEVEN-year-old girl who was attempting to fly across America was killed yesterday when her single-engined Cessna crashed.

Jessica Dubroff died instantly when the plane hit the ground soon after it had taken off in bad weather in Cheyenne, Wyoming, at the start of the second leg of the trip. The Cessna came down in a residential area but no houses were hit. It appeared that the pilot may have steered the aircraft away from homes, so that it crashed in a road.

Jessica's father, Lloyd, a business consultant, also died in one of the Cessna's two rear passenger seats. The other victim was Joe Reid, a flight instructor, who was at Jessica's side in order to meet aviation authority requirements. Solo flight is not permitted by children under the age of 16.

A witness, Ron Nimmo, said that the Cessna was circling but suddenly went into a dive. The victims were taken to hospital but were declared dead on arrival.

The Cessna had taken off in rain, hail and wind. It was not known who was at the controls when the plane crashed. Wednesday evening, execut-ing a fair landing after a wobbly approach. She was greeted by a crowd of schoolchildren who held placards saying "Good Luck, Jessica". On the day before her flight began she said she had slept for only two hours, "because I was so excited".

The record-breaking attempt began on Wednesday afternoon at Half Moon Bay airfield near San Francisco, California. Jessica had devised her own flight path, charting a 6,500-mile route over the Rockies, the vast Midwestern and the Great Lakes. She intended to land in Falmouth. Massachusetts, where her family once lived.

The Cessna's controls were altered to suit the girl's short limbs. Before starting her journey, Jessica announced: I'm going to fly until I die." She first rode in a small plane on her sixth birthday when she was allowed to take the controls briefly, and from that day she was hooked. Despite having an instructor at her side, she intended to do all the flying. In the event of Mr Reid having to take the controls in an emergency, Jessica would

than loving parents working on their own image of reflected glory.Norris McWhirter on the deadly urge to break records...

have had to repeat that leg of the journey in order to qualify as a transcontinental pilot.

Child aviation has become increasingly common in to see their young assume the airs of adulthood, and at the same time perform to the peak of their abilities. The record for youngest airborne navigation across north America is held by nine-year-old Tony Aliengena, who achieved the feat in 1988.

Records recently stopped publishing child aviation records, for fear of an accident.

SATURDAY

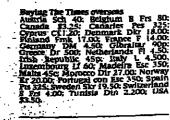
IN THE TIMES

Labour the centre party, Blair tells US

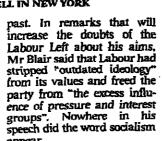
By PETER RIDDELL IN NEW YORK

LABOUR has become the party of the centre, speaking for the mainstream majority, Tony Blair said yesterday as he sought to show that his party had transformed itself and was ready for office.

His speech, to 600 business-men at the British-American Chamber of Commerce in New York, marked a further big step in his attempt to distance new Labour from its



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Instead, he presented new Labour as a "party of the centre as well as the centreleft". He said: "A radical centre is needed to answer the competitive challenges for the economy while enhancing so-cial stability and coherence."

Mr Blair argued that the old solutions of Left and Right no

longer applied and he believed that the centre could be fertile ground for radical politics. The extremes whether of Left or Right simply will not meet Continued on page 2, col 5

Irritated Tories, page 9



German airport fire kills 15

At least 15 people were reported killed and more than 100 injured when a fire broke out in a flower shop at Düsseldorf international airport, fire fighters and police said. Many of the casualties were overcome by thick smoke. The terminal was evacuated and the airport closed to all air traffic, police said Page 11

Separation for Marina **Ogilvy**

By Alan Hamilton

MARINA MOWATT, daugh ter of Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy and a cousin of the Queen, has separated from her husband after six years of marriage, it was announced yesterday.

Mrs Mowatt, aged 29 and 30th in line of succession to the throne, married her photogra-pher husband Paul, 32, in 1990 when she was six months pregnant, and amid reports of opposition from her parents. The couple now have two children, aged six and three.

A statement issued on be-half of the couple by solicitors Max Bitel Greene yesterday blamed the separation on long-standing marital difficulties, and emphasised that no one else was involved. "Both Marina and Paul are very sad that this situation has been reached, and both are now intent that the interests of their



Marina Ogilvy: very sad

children must be paramount. This is a private matter and, for the sake of the children, Marina and Paul wish to avoid unnecessary publicity which might upset the children. For this reason, no further statements will be issued."

A spokesman for Mrs Mowatt's parents said last night that Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus were sad to learn of what had happened. "They will of course do everything they can to help their daughter and her young

Curse of Hello!, page 3 | park. Cunard is contesting the

Egypt seizes Cunard liner that hit reef

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

THE Egyptian Government has impounded the Royal Viking Sun luxury cruise liner in the Red Sea port of Sharm el-Sheikh as a bargaining counter in its dispute with Cunard over damage to a

The public prosecution office in Cairo confirmed yesterday that the 37,845 tonne ship will not be allowed to leave Egyptian waters until the company has met its demands for \$23 million (£16 million) compensation.

The ship was crippled last Thursday when she struck a reef near the island of Tirana while negotiating the narrow Gulf of Aqaba, and is now anchored off Sharm el-Sheikh.

Divers from the Eyptian environmental protection agency have reported severe damage to the reef, which forms part of the protected Ras Mohamed marine national

greatly exceeds previous fines against owners of boats that have damaged the coral. The heaviest such fine before the Royal Viking Sun accident was about £14,000. Bill Spears, a

spokesman, said that lawyers representing the company's insurers would meet Egyptian Government officials at the weekend to sort out the dispute. A senior Cunard source said he believed the company's insurers would be able to negotiate the Egyptian authorities' figure down.

The company is flying its own diver and a coral expert out to assess the damage. The 500 passengers, including 54 Britons, who were on board the Royal Viking Sun when she hit the reef were

flown home at the weekend

and have been offered a 14-day

cruise on other ships as

Forty pages of men's fashion, in the Magazine Paul Heiney's new column for cooks, in Weekend Seven days of TV and radio, in Vision Weekend Money, Car 96 and 1015 for

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SPORT **VALERIE GRO** EDUCATION33



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Labour move to lure businessmen into classrooms 'dangerously naive'

Teachers sceptical over Dad's Ārmy school invasion

By David Charter, education correspondent

LABOUR moves to attract middle-aged businessmen into teaching were criticised by the profession yesterday for failing to tackle an impending recruitment crisis.

Heads teachers and union leaders doubted that older people would return to the classroom in sufficient numbers to dent the requirement for 50,000 new teachers a year by the end of the century. The "Dad's Army" scheme was given a cool reception at its launch at the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary and ar-chitect of the scheme. appeared ready to backtrack after his speech to the conferanraction of the idea is that if it does not work, you have lost

nothing. If it does not work, so be it." He said mid-career transfers from business and industry would go hand-inhand with incentives for graduates to enter teaching as well as extra pay for proven "super teachers". He told the conference: "It is a nice idea that those who have made their mint somewhere else will want then to give their time to teaching. I am assured by

of the teenage population.

Saxon Spence, who chairs

the education committee of

the Association of County

Councils, which produced the

survey with the Association of

Metropolitan Authorities,

said: "The slight decrease in

the percentage continuing in

people out of education."

on the

HSA SuperPlan

The family

health care plan that

pays you tax-free

to spend as you wish

Fewer pupils choose to stay on after 16

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE proportion of young jeopardy. The proportion of 16-year-olds going into full-time education in England people choosing to continue their studies beyond the statutory school-leaving age of 16 has dropped for the first time fell from 68.1 per cent to 67.6 per cent. However, the actual in seven years, local authorinumbers continued to rise because of the increased size ties reported yesterday.

Successive reductions in the numbers dropping out at Ió came to a halt last year. as the economy started to recover. The latest School Leavers' Destination Survey shows the proportion of 16-year-olds remaining in the education system falling from 83 per cent to 81 per cent.

Improvements in the staying-on rate have been trumpeted by ministers throughout the 1990s, as Britain has closed the gap on rival nations in educational participation. The reversal of the trend will place the Government's education and training targets in greater some of them they do." But Professor John How-

son, of Oxford Brockes University, who has carried out a series of studies on teacher employment, said the proposals were "dangerously naive". Little more than half of the 800 people aged 45 or more who trained to be teachers in 1993 ended up in the profession. Recruitment for secondary schools hit the buffers two years ago," Professor Howson

welcomed the idea of sabbaticals but did not think the Dad's Army scheme would work. "Those people will be aware that youngsters of to-day are very different from what they were 30 years ago. They are less respectful of authority and to be a teacher these days you have to have a lot of vigour. It would be a very stiff challenge for them."

said. "What the profession

actually needs is more people in their twenties, but if new

graduates find teaching unat-

tractive, what kind of people

are we going to get transfer-ring in their forties?"

that sabbaticals of up to a year for long-serving teachers would be another incentive to

enter teaching under a Labour

government. The break could

be used by teachers after 15

years' service, to spend time in industry or research. Last night it was claimed this could

cost at least £300 million a

year for supply cover if all

18,000 teachers with 15 years'

service opted for a sabbatical.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT.

Mr Blunkett said yesterday

John Dunford, president of the Secondary Heads' Associ-ation, said: "We want the best young graduates coming into the profession. Bringing in 55year-olds from industry will not solve the huge teacher shortage coming in the next two or three years." Mr Dunford said 50,000

new teachers would be needed every year by the turn of the century. The cost of training these people would be far better invested attracting and training graduates to spend a lifetime in teaching, he said. James Paice, a junior Edu-

education is a worrying cation and Employment Mintrend. All those concerned ister, said Mr Blunkett's with education and training scheme for a sabbatical for will want to keep close watch long-serving teachers would figures in future cost the country £5 billion if every eligible teacher took a Graham Lane, the AMA's year off. A Labour spokesman education chairman, said: however, that "Increased costs students sabbaticals would be gradualhave to face are driving some ly phased in with industry

contributing some of the cost.



Nigel de Gruchy, left, and David Blunkett at the union's conference in Glasgow

Child abusers beat ban to work as supply staff

By David Charter

CHILD abusers banned from teaching are being allowed back into schools by unscrupulous teacher supply agen-cies, a classroom union said yesterday. Tight new regulations are

required to stop agency teachers on a government blacklist from sidestepping screening checks, delegates at the Nat-ional Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers annual conference, which is taking place in Glasgow, were told. A survey by the union found

that one in four head teachers did not know whether security checks had been made on supply teachers sent to them by agencies. In one instance, a teacher who had been sacked and placed on the Department for Education's blacklist, known as List 99, was sent back to a primary school by an agency. Local authorities are

legally obliged to check the list and criminal records of all teachers but corner-cutting agencies can avoid the checks if they hire teachers on a selfemployed basis.

Martin Johnson, a supply teacher in Lewisham, southeast London, said: "One of our members found someone teaching in a primary school he knew had been forced to resign from another school and put on List 99. The Government had made the decision he was not fit to teach and yet the man was back in the classroom. The majority of people on List 99 have a question mark about abuse of

He said that in another case, Manchester education authority had to write to schools warning that an agency representative was himself on List

The union called for regulations to require the checks which it claimed were routine-

Screening was said to be often overlooked for the hundreds of supply teachers from Australia and New Zealand on

agency books. Delegates also said the growing use of agency teachers would drive down standards.

Mr Johnson said: "Pupils in one school had 13 science teachers on a most, most of them from abroad, with no knowledge of the national

Brian Garvey, a member of the union's national executive member from Yorkshire, said: This Government complains about 15,000 unsuitable teachers in schools on the one hand, and yet fully endorses this casualisation of the teaching profession.

This drives down teacher quality by employing anyone from off the streets anywhere in the world. Mr Garvey

Judge says jailing of patient was absurd

Hello spell (happ)

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An Old Bailey judge said yesterday it was "absurd" for a psychiatrist to refuse to allow a second medical opinion on

a suicidal mental patient, which resulted in him being sent to prison instead of hospital.

Sydney McBride, 49, who has a history of severe depression, had tried to burn himself to death and had admitted arson. He was sentenced to four years. Judge Laughland, QC, told him: "I very much regret that I cannot order a disposal which would more closely address your need for treatment but because of the attitude of a doctor I am unable to do so." Dr David Somekh surprised the probation service and defence lawyers by the move.

Bridgewater trial doubts

A second juror in the Carl Bridgewater trial said yesterday that she believed the four men convicted of the killing were innocent. Lucinda Graham is to support the campaign to have the case sent back to the Court of Appeal. Miss Graham, the youngest member of the jury in 1979, said she had doubts from the start. Michael Hickey, his cousin Vincent Hickey and James Robinson were convicted largely on a confession by Patrick Molloy.

Leeds killing denied

A youngenan arrested for the murder last weekend of a pensioner who was attacked in his car as he stopped to ask directions, denied in court yesterday that he was the killer. Clive Jones, 25, was arrested on Tuesday in connection with the death last Saturday of Stevan Popovic, 74, who was prominent in the Serb community in the Chapeltown district of Leeds. Mr Jones, who lives in Gipton, West-Yorkshire, was remanded in custody for a week.

Nursing staff arrested

A female nurse and a male nursing auxiliary have been arrested in connection with "serious allegations" after an internal inquiry at Bolton General Hospital. John Pettigrew, director of nursing, said: "The allegations relate to the care of three male patients on one of the psychiatric wards." The arrests come 18 months after a separate inquiry into the abuse of psychiatric patients resulted in seven nurses being suspended and three later sacked.

Canterbury tails off

Canterbury Cathedral fell in popularity in the year it introduced admission charges. The number of visitors fell to 1.9 million, down from 2.25 million the year before. A charge of £2 for adults and £1 for children, the unemployed and pensioners was introduced last June. Officials said the hot summer, parking problems and French strikes affected the number, which equalled that of visitors to St Paul's in

Suspect in Philippines

The former lodger of a missing Essex businessman and his wife has been arrested in the Philippines. Geoffrey Paston was arrested at a nightclub he runs in the city of Tacloban by immigration officials, accompanied by two officers from Essex Police. Mr Paston is wanted for questioning about the disappearance of David Sims, 51, from Southend, and China Rose, 31, his Filipina wife, who have not been seen since the early months of 1993.

City wins £15m grant

The Arts Council of England awarded a National Lottery Concert Hall and the Regent Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent. The improvements are part of the council's plan to create a "cultural quarter" in the city, which will include a touring venue for ballet, drama, opera and music theatre. Seventy-four grants totalling £28.16 million were distributed

First taste of summer

The first English strawberries of the summer of 1996 are on their way to the shops this weekend, earlier than ever before. Despite the late spring, the latest improvements in growing techniques have urged the crop forward by at least ten days. Vernon Emery, of Warsash, Hampshire, gave his plants 15 minutes of artificial light each hour from 11pm until 7am from mid-January, triggering the growth that produces earlier and larger fruit.

Mother rescues children

A mother plucked her two children and their friend to safety after driving onto a rail crossing as two trains approached from opposite directions. Kim Turner, 32, from Leconfield, East Yorkshire, had edged onto Scorborough crossing near Beverley although warning lights were flashing. She grabbed the children and leapt from the car, which was badly damaged as it was hit by one of the Sprinter trains

Oasis cut concert

Extra police were called in yesterday after the rock band Oasis walked out abruptly during a concert in Canada, sparking fears of a riot by thousands of angry fans. The concert had just begun at the Coliseum in Vancouver when the band suddenly stopped playing and left the stage, apparently because someone had thrown a shoe onstage, Sergeant Bob Chapman of the city police said. There were no reports of injuries.

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Labour 'at centre

the real challenges. A modern party must be in the centre. speaking for the mainstream

In the past Mr Blair has presented new Labour as being in the centre-left, so his reference to the centre is a further step in the repositioning of the party, in line with his claims that Labour is the party of One Nation.

Mr Blair argued that the role of "a modern centre and centre-left government is to equip people and business for change, to enable and empower, not to direct and control. A government of the radical centre, offering real and dynamic change but doing it from a centre-ground position, taking people with us, recog-nising that unless we combine change with equity, change

will not come". Mr Blair backed his claim both by referring to changes in the structure of the Labour Party itself and in its policies, mentioning in particular its intention to keep public spending under tight control while making a top priority of lowering tax at the bottom end

of the scale. He argued that while the values and priorities of the

THE social work director who

caused a storm of protest by

describing Ecstasy as safer

than aspirin yesterday de-clared drug misuse "illegal and unsafe".

Mary Hartnoll's original

comments were described as

"unwise" by senior officials at

Glasgow City Council yester-day. The council has called an

emergency meeting.
Miss Hartnoll, 55, caused

outrage among drug rehabili-

tation workers with an inter-

nal memo to the chief

executive of the council de-

scribing Ecstasy as "relatively

safe". She also said in the

memo that the risk of dying

from a normal dose of aspirin

was "very much greater" than

She had been responding to

a hardline approach on drugs

by the council's licensing

board, and her opinions ap-

peared to contradict the work

that of dying from Ecstasy.

main parties would continue to differ, they would draw from the same "pot of policy prescriptions". Tax reform. he said, could be a message of both Left and Right, as could welfare reform.

In his speech, Mr Blair emphasised that it was absurd to imagine that, for Britain, "there is a choice between the relationship with Europe and that with America. On the contrary, the real value to the US of the British role in Europe lies in the influence we can and will exert to help keep Europe firmly linked to the US in defence, outward-looking. open to trade and investment, and open also to the inclusion of the new democracies in Central and Eastern Europe".

He spoke of his strong belief in free-trade policies, calling for further action to deal with barriers to trade and investment across the Atlantic. The Labour leader rein-

forced his claims to a new approach by saying that new Labour accepted many of the changes brought in in the 1980s under Conservative goverriments which were needed to improve competitiveness and encourage enterprise.

Irritated Tories, page 9

combat the drugs threat in the city. Drug abuse claims the lives of about 100 young

people in Glasgow every year. Robert Gould, leader of the

council, said: "Ecstasy is not a

relatively safe drug." He said.

however, that he would not be

calling for Miss Harmoll's

resignation and that she re-

tained the confidence of the

Mr Gould said he had sympathy for views of the

father of Leah Betts, the teen-

ager who died after taking

Ecstasy. Paul Betts said that

Miss Hartnoll's remarks were

"totally irresponsible".

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

Social worker backtracks on drugs Hartnoll, said: "I would never condone the taking of Ecstasy or any illegal drug." The council moved to limit the damage to its image by declaring its commitment to

Hartnoll: started her £76,000 post recently

"If I were Leah Betts's father or mother I would probably be talking the same way but if you look at the detail of what is being said, Mary Harmoll is probably not far off the mark." The depute leader of the Council, Gordon MacDiarmid, said Miss Hartnoll's statement was "very irresponsible in relation to public

perception but it was not an irresponsible statement to make in an internal memo" given its context and its

Miss Hartnoll, who took up her £76,776 a year council post recently, said: "I am surprised and disappointed that one sentence in an internal memo has been so widely misinter-preted and taken out of context.

The social work department, under my leadership, has played a full and active part in the Greater Glasgow Drugs Action Team, whose first priority is to turn the tide of public opinion against illicit drug-taking and to make it socially unacceptable, an aim

I fully endorse." She added later: "My view is that there is no such thing as a safe drug, but the risk of death from Ecstasy is perhaps not that high, although there are a lot of other health risks

DMIN FRIDAY APRILIP

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Hello! casts evil

line of royal couples to face a failed marriage. They have witnessed the separation of the Princess Royal and Captain Mark Phillips, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York. The Times understands that yesterday's statement by solic-

They are the latest in a long

them no good at all.

connection.

itors was issued to pre-empt a Sunday newspaper, which had intended to publish details of the couple's marriage breakdown this weekend. Shortly after her pregnancy



Ogilvys' daughter leaves husband

Paul Mowatt said to have been paid £100,000

was confirmed, Marina sold her story to the now-defunct Today newspaper, claiming that her parents were so horrified by the prospect of the first illegitimate royal birth this century that they had forced her into the choice of abortion or shotgun marriage.

Marina, in the event, chose marriage. But the style of the ceremony was far removed from that of her parents in Westminster Abbey. Paul and Marina were married at St Andrew's Church, in Ham, southwest London, before a congregation of 30, among whom there were no royal family members other than the bride's parents. The bride

Their daughter was born and named Zenouska, a name her parents confessed they had made up during a game of Scrabble. The couple seemed happy, and Marina told newspapers how much better life was outside the Royal Family. She even made sympathetic noises towards the Prince and Princess of Wales when their formal separation was an-nounced in 1992, saying how well she understood the pressures of life in the royal goldfish bowl.

But all was not well on Marina's home front. Even Hello!, which prefers its domestic horizons to be entirely unclouded, reported in its November 1992 interview with the couple that a serious rift remained between them and Marina's parents. In two years, Zenouska had seen her grandparents for a total of 15 minutes, despite living in a semi in Teddington, only ten minutes drive from Princess Alexandra's home at Thatched House Lodge in Richmond



Park. When a second child, Christian, was born in 1993, there appeared to be something of a family reconciliation. Paul Mowatt, who had been unwelcome in the Ogilvy family home since the marriage, was received into the fold. Sir Angus Ogilvy and Princess Alexandra attended a joint christening of their two grandchildren in the Chapel Royal of St James's Palace,

lent for the occasion by the and pictures of the christening

But even that event was not without its repercussions. Paul, who had already incurred royal displeasure for selling photographs of his wife wearing thigh-length boots and a tinsel crown and brandishing a gun while corgis snapped at her feet, dug himself deeper into royal opprobrium for selling the story

to Hello! for a reputed

£100,000. The couple, who have recently been living together in a cottage in Yorkshire, have been obliged throughout their short married life to make a living as best they can. Three years ago, Marina further distanced herself from the Royal Family by agreeing to write a regular column for the

Sunday Express. It was not a success, and the House of Windsor does not like its members, even those in the lower twenties of the succes-

sion table, to muddy their hands with rough trade. Marina's belief that the secret of happiness lay in escape under the Windsor wire to the fresh and airy world outside has, sadly, not lived up to expectations.

Two held on killing ordered by a fax

By KATE ALDERSON

POLICE hunting the killers of an accountant shot four years ago on the orders of an American millionaire have arrested two men.

David Wilson, 47, was murdered by two hooded men at his home in Withnell, Lancashire, in March 1992, Mr Wilson, who was married with two daughters, had become involved in a multimillion-dollar cigarette deal with Michael Austin, a wealthy New York fraudster.

Austin, 40, ordered the execution of Mr Wilson by fax from New York after the accountant began to threaten the success of his empire. He was extradited from the United States and convicted of murder at Carlisle Crown Court last year. He was sentenced to life imprisonment but has appealed.

On Wednesday night two men, both English and in their thirties, were arrested at their homes by a team of Lancashire detectives helped by the Metropolitan Police and the Kent Constabulary. The men. one from Northfleet, Kent, and the other from south London, were taken to Lancashire for questioning.
Superintendent Bob Den-

mark, who led the international search for the killers, said: These arrests were the logical conclusion of four years of investigations. I anticipate charges connected with the killing of David Wilson will be

Tory MP's lost sleep costs royal hall £1,600

By A STAFF REPORTER

A COMPLAINT by the Conservative MP Nicholas Winterton that loud music from a band next door to his London flat stopped him sleeping cost the Royal Horticultural Halls a £1,000 fine yesterday for noise pollution.

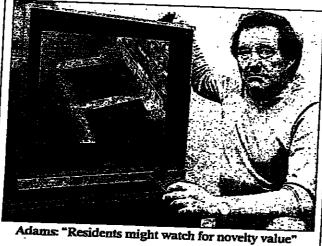
The thumping beat from an awards function for The Grocer magazine at the halls in Westminster was "terribly loud". Mr Winterton, MP for Macclesfield, told council officers. Horseferry Road Magis-trates Court heard.

Through its managing director, René Dee, the Royal Horticultural Halls Ltd admitted failing to comply with a notice under the 1974 Control of Pollution Act to abate a noise nuisance. The company was also ordered to pay £626 costs.

Alex Cranbrook, for Westminster council, said the notice had been served after complaints from residents of flats next to the halls, where a concert was taking place. Later, Mr Winterton, 58, who has a flat in the same block, complained and officers who had gone to his address were able to hear the music before midnight even with the windows closed.

After hearing the halls were 62 years old and not properly sound-proofed, Ros Keating; a magistrate, commented: "In those years, we didn't have the sort of music we have now." Mr Dee told the court that the company had now stopped

taking bookings for music and dancing functions.



Residents tune in to real-life crime

By PAUL WILKINSON

VIEWERS on a crime-ridden estate in South Yorkshire who are bored with the usual stuff on television can switch to

real-life sex, drugs and violence on their own doorsteps. A £25,000 closed-circuit system being installed in council tower blocks in Doncaster is linked directly to the TV sets of residents. Council officials hope the project will turn the occupants of 450 flats into their own security guards and cut the rising level of trouble at the 30-year-old St James Street estate. Similar schemes in Camden, north London, and Hartlepool, Teesside, achieved dramatic cuts in vandalism

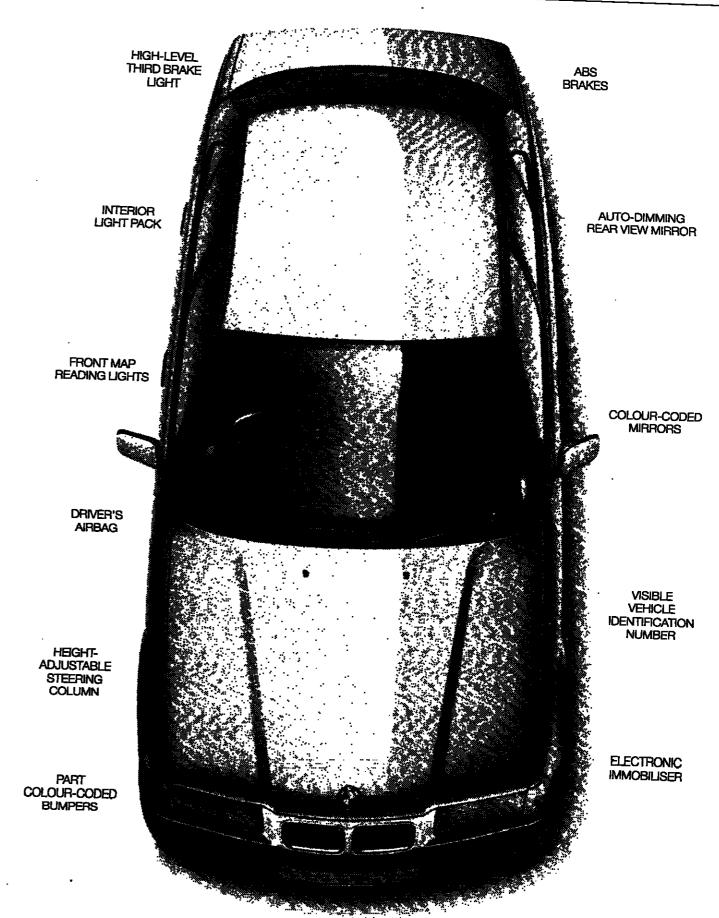
and thefts. Terry Adams, tenants' association chairman on the estate, said: "We have been plagued with problems for years and this means people will be able to see what is happening and tell the police. Car thefts and break-ins in the parking areas have been a problem but one of the main sources of trouble

is when gangs get inside the blocks.

Because the lobbies are secluded there have been gangs of boys and girls, drinking, glue-sniffing, taking drugs and having sex. With the cameras we will be able to see what happens and telephone for the police without fear of intimidation. Residents might even tune in for the novelty value."

Doncaster council, which shares the installation and running costs with South Yorkshire Police, said the cameras would not see inside individual homes. "The system will not be linked either to local police or our own central control room but directly into spare channels on the residents' TVs through communal aerials."

Bev Marshall, the council housing chairman, said: "This system will enhance the security arrangements and hopefully reduce the levels of nuisance and crime, allowing people to use the communa



Hardman Vinnie sees red at Dutch order of the boot

By Richard Duce

VINNIE JONES. English football's most notorious exponent of the late tackle, is no stranger to the red card but none has come swifter than his embarrassing exit yesterday from an international conference on fair play in

Jones would probably admit his inclusion as a speaker at the Amsterdam confence had smacked of the bizarre. But he was not happy to be snubbed by officials who insisted his name was

not on the guest list. Exit Jones to his hotel room and an early bath while the waited for an explanation from the organisers of the conference, sponsored by the Dutch Government. The organisers insisted Jones's exclusion had nothing to do with his hardman reputation. He had instead, they claimed, been invited only to take part last night in a television recording with his fellow



Jones: excluded from conference on fair play

professional Eric Cantona and the Formula One drivers Damon Hill and Michael Schumacher, to be shown

across Europe today.
Steve Davies, Jones's agent, was unconvinced and flourished an invitation from Erika Terpstra, the Dutch Sports Minister and former

Olympic swimmer. It stated: "It is my great pleasure and honour to invite you to the round table conference. Your presence will underline the importance of the object of the meeting." Jones said his exclusion

was a "ridiculous cock-up. If you want to know about coal. ask the people who are digging it out."

The Wimbledon player insists he has mellowed despite being sent off recently for

fouling the Cheisea footballer Rund Gullit, whom he called a "squealing pig". When I started playing I was only 20. Now I am older and more educated. We all learn by our mistakes." Jones has been sent off 12

times in his career, more than any other English league footballer, and attracted fines totalling more than £26,000. Gullit has been declared Enropean ambassador for sport, fair play and tolerance a title that Jones said was

OTHER CARS DATE. THIS ONE UPDATES.

The BMW 3 Series has long been regarded as the benchmark in sports saloons. Autocar sums it up admirably: "The BMW 3 Series continues to break fresh ground" One of the secrets of the model's lasting success is the continual upgrading of its standard specification. And all in addition to such features as power-assisted steering, central locking, electric front windows, electric door mirrors	and exhaust catalysor. All of which have always been fitted as standard. But is the comprehensively-upgraded 3 Series starting to sound just a little expensive? In fact, the greatly enhanced equipment level not withstanding, a BMW,316i at £16,530 actually costs £802 less in real terms than it would have done 5 years ago. So, while breaking fresh ground, your new BMW won't be breaking the bank.	Please send details on: BMW 2 Series () BMW Select Finance (). To: BMW Information Service, PO Box 161, Croydon CR9 10B; Freephone 0800 325800; Internet: http://www.bmw.cu.uk. IMMediates Intels
	PRICES CORRECT AT THAE OF GOING TO PRESS AND INCLUDE VAI, ONE YEAR'S ROAD FUND LICE	THE BLYMANTE DESIGNED BLACKSONE CO
EIECTRIC TRONT WINDOWS, EIECTRIC DOOR MITTORS BIANT 3 SERES PRICES START FROM £14,260 ON THE ROAD MODEL SHOWN 3161 AT £16,530. F	new BMW won't be breaking the hank	THE STREET CONTROL OF THE PARTY

Cattle slaughter may be doubled to 30,000 a week

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

PLANS to kill up to 30,000 cattle a week are to be announced by the Government next week in the first stage of a rescue package for the beef industry, it emerged yester-day. That is double the number initially thought necessary under last week's Luxembourg agreement with the European Union to keep all cattle older than 30 months out of the food chain.

Investigation by the Minis-try of Agriculture and the National Farmers' Union has revealed that the number of steers and heifers, prime beef cattle, which are older than 30 months is much higher than was thought. This means the Government will not be able to limit the destruction to the 15,000 normally slaughtered every week at the end of their productive life.

Thousands of prime cartle just over 30 months old will also have to be destroyed because they cannot now be used for food. Younger animals are extremely unlikely to he infected with BSE, the

Richard Macdonald, the NFU's director-general-designate, said: "It is impossible to determine exactly how many cattle fall into what we are calling this 30-plus category. but it could be around 250,000 a year - far more than we

These animals include cattle reared for export which are slaughtered at a later age to satisfy foreign demand for heavier carcasses. Some of the best beef also comes from slow-maturing breeds led almost entirely on grass and often killed as late as 36 months. Meat from these animals is now banned if they are older than 30 months.

Farmers say the Ministry of Agriculture has made problems worse by using tooth development as the test of cattle age. Any animal showing more than one pair of incisor teeth is deemed to be older than 30 months, but farmers say a second set of incisors often appears in heifers younger than that. Proving an animal's real age can be difficult because until very recently there was no systemand recording of the birth dates of heifers. The Ministry says it is trying to come up

with a solution. The NFU has told the

ministry that it calculates there is now a backlog of up to 100,000 old cows and a further 100,000 younger animals more than 30 months old awaiting slaughter on farms. Clearing this backlog could mean destroying as many as

> Douglas Hogg, the Minister of Agriculture, could announce the cull next Tuesday, according to Whitehall sources, and the first cattle could be slaughtered before the end of the month.

Details of the plan are still

30,000 animals a week for up

being finalised. These include levels of compensation and the logistics — there is no shortage of slaughter capacity but the nine licensed livestock incinerators cannot handle more than 3,000 whole carcasses a week. One idea under discussion is that the heads, backbone and offal would be incinerated. The rest of the carcasses would be boiled down by rendering plants which specialise in processing animal waste. The residue could then be incinerated or buried in special landfill sites. Mr Macdonald said: "The

logistics of the operation are a



An animal rights activist at the gate of the Aalten slaughterhouse, where the Netherlands calf cull began

tremendous catch-up job. Some sort of queuing or rationing system may have to be introduced to allow for a phased destruction of the

The NFU said it was pressing for extra compensation for farmers who would lose prime beef cattle. Under the Luxembourg deal, farmers would get

huge problem. There will be a an average of about £480 per animal, a figure based on the market rate for an old and barren cow. Prime beef ani-mals can be worth more than E1,000 each.

Extra compensation would create difficulties for the Treasury. The EU agreed last week to pay 70 per cent of compensation at a rate of £480 an that any compensation above that rate would have to come entirely out of the Govern-

ment's pocket. In addition to the destruction of animals over 30 months old, the Government is also committed to produce proposals by the end of this month for a more selective cull of cattle and/or herds identified as being at the most risk of

developing BSE. There is no indication yet how many ani-

mals this might involve.

The NFU is considering a legal challenge to the EU's worldwide ban on £600 million, on the ground that it is disproportionate to the scientific evidence, but will make no legal move for three weeks to give the EU more time to review the ban.

Protests greet cull of calves in Holland

ANIMAL rights activists shouted "murderers" yesterday at the beginning of the mass destruction of 64,000 British calves in the

Netherlands. Escorted by police vehicles, four trucks transported the first load to the Kropveld-Schipstal slaughterhouse in Aalten, where up to 2,000 a day will be killed for up to siz weeks. Animal rights and vegetarian groups laid wreaths against the walls.

The drastic mass slaughte was announced last month by the Dutch Agriculture Ministry, after British scientists said there was a possible link between mad cow disease and deaths from the human equivalent, Creutzfeldt-Jakob

In France, a governm investigation reported six cases of fraud over the origin of beef imported into France in the last two weeks. In two cases out of 2,000 checked, British meat imported before a French ban was on sale labelled as French meat, Four others involved Dutch and German meat which was sold as French, said junior finance minister Yves Galland, in a statement on the results of his ministry's investigation. Legal proceedings had been launched in all six cases, he said.

France was the first country to suspend imports of British beef, on March 21.

Class degree meant the same now as it did 10 or 20 years

ago. "In the past 15 years there

has been an inexorable increase in the proportion of

Firsts from 6 per cent to 10 per

cent. It could be that students are getting better, or that teaching methods have im-

proved to such an extent that

students are performing much

better than their counterparts

in the past. But even if this is

the case, it does not explain

why the proportion of good

degrees has gone up so much

at a time when the participa-

tion rate has increased so

About 30 per cent of 18-year-

olds enter higher education, compared with only 5 per cent

some 20 years ago. "It is

difficult to believe that the

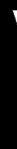
proportion of these modern

students who merit a good

degree is so much higher than

the proportion of their more highly selected predecessors." There are wide variations in

dramatically."



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Psychological Society

Degree grading 'biased and open to abuse'

UNIVERSITY examiners are assessing students in a way that is "unreliable, inconsistent, biased and open to frequent abuse", the president of the British Psychological Society said yesterday. Professor Stephen New-

stead said only a radical overhaul would prevent the degree system falling into disrepute. One essay, given to 14 different examiners, received marks ranging from a First to a borderline Lower Second or Third-class degree. Professor Newstead, of Plymouth University, said examiners were influenced by their personal like or dislike of students whose work they

ment had shown that, even without knowing the candidate, the marks awarded for the same piece of work could differ by 70 per cent. National examinations were needed as part of all university degrees to halt the erosion of faith in institutions that produce too many good results. Professor Newstead said. He feared Britain could follow the

were marking. But his experi-

United States, where many qualifications are regarded with scepticism by employers and academics. "Students don't always get the degree they deserve," he said at the society's annual conference in Brighton. The system is undermined if degrees don't mean the same thing in different institutions. The reputation of British higher education is potentially undermined." Professor

Newstead doubted that a First

the number of good degrees awarded in different disciplines, with philosophy, history, sociology and English students getting better awards than accountancy, mathematics, education and law. Professor Newstead said there was also evidence of sex bias in marking, with women tending to get fewer Firsts and Thirds than men, particularly at Oxford and Cambridge.

Professor Newstead called for academics to be banned from assessing projects which they have supervised, as already happens with PhD

Computers 'strike fear into young'

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

YOUNG computer-users. often presumed by their parents to have been born to wander cyberspace, are more intimidated by new technol-ogy than older generations, researchers have found. According to a study by

Strathclyde University, those in their thirties are eager to learn computer skills and feel confident about their ability.

Despite being brought up on computers, many young people can feel fearful at the thought of using them. Some even develop a condition known in America as "computer phobia", experiencing dizziness and nausea when surrounded by them and a wish to smash the machine.

Nicholas Bozionelos, a psychologist told the British Psychological Society conference that he had compared a group brought up in the 1970s - 165 trainees in management, aged from 30 to 43 - with a group brought

ed 1980s — 47 undergraduates aged from 18 to 23.

Younger people were 95 per cent more likely to be apprehensive about computers. Women were twice as likely to worry about computers as men. A larger experiment involving 440 people shows similar initial findings.

"The findings are assonishing. If they are substantiated, it suggests that the younger generation may avoid computers, may underperform and may even sabotage new computers in the workplace." Mr Bozionelos said.

One theory is that younger people are overwhelmed by the amount of computer technology available and fear they will have to learn all of it to get through life. The young also associated computers with mathematics, which they found difficult at school.

People in their thirties and forties know they only had to learn a few computer applications to help them at work.

Cunning C

MES TRIDAY APRILDA

in Hollan

Levilla

Union accuses Barclays of putting workers at risk by not revealing threat from blackmailer



The first bombs, sent in 1994, were concealed in



Christmas wrapping paper and video boxes



Police comb bank records for clue to parcel bomber

August:

drove over it.

to home addresses and others put through the

letterboxes of companies in

an arc south of London

from Kent to Surrey in-

cluding a greengrocer and

a merchant builder. Another appeal put out for the bomber to get in

demand from the bomber.

September: Devices left in

telephone boxes near

Bardays branches in west

London. One device left in a case outside a branch at

Hayes was thrown into the

road and exploded as ear

January: More devices left

outside branches includ-

ing one in Ealing, west

London. Others planted in

south London. In the past

two months, another ad-

placed by the bank seeking

contact with bomber, who

threatened more attacks.

Another written

LISTS of disgruntled customers and former staff were being checked by police last night in the search for the

The bank confirmed it had handed over lists of aggrieved clients, including failed businessmen who blame the collapse of their firms on the bank. Detectives believe the bomber could be a businessman with a military or engineering background, or a bank employee who was sacked or made redundant.

The police and bank have placed newspaper advertise-ments appealing for the bomber to get in contact. This month he wrote to the Daily Mail threatening more attacks and claimed he was part of a group of disaffected bank victims.

in the past 16 months the bomber, who calls himself Mardi Gra, has made threats and sent or planted about 25 home-made devices aimed at Barclays and Barclaycard. Three have gone off, and one clerk suffered minor injuries.

A spokesman for the bank said: "We are co-operating with police and helping them in any way we can. I am sure people will understand it is important this man is caught. We have talked to the police about a number of possible lines of inquiry."

The bank was accused by unions yesterday of putting

A MONTES OF ATTACKS

December 5, 1994: Bank clerk injured by letter bomb at Hampstead High Street. Five more bombs sent same day to other west London branches. Addressed with a label saying Welcome to the Mardi Gra Experience.

December 6: Bomber wrote to Barclaycard headquarters in Northampton with first demand for money. Bank was told to communicate through the personal columns of The Daily Telegraph using the codename Mardi Gra. He always responded with un-

traceable letters. May 1995: Another blackmail demand as devices were sent to people or companies working for Barclaycard and Barclays. June 19: Barclaycard security official received device made with shotgun

July: Some devices posted

staff at risk. Rob MacGregor, warnings. He said the bank assistant secretary of Bifu, should have taken steps to condemned senior managemake staff more aware of the possible risk. There is being ment for failing to warn staff that the bank had become a subtle and there is being nonexistent, and that is what they have been." Mr MacGregor He questioned the bank's

> He said Barclays had been "hiding behind the police. We have an employer that knows

it has enemies. Banks are highly unpopular and they are an easy target."

Andrew Buxton, the bank's

chairman, said staff had received regular warnings about letter bombs and raids and keeping vigilant generally. You have to appreciate that this is against the background of a business that has a raid of some sort once a week, and a raid that might involve lire-arms perhaps once a fort-night. So our staff generally are extremely vigilant, and we

do send out regular warnings. "The warnings we have sent out have covered everything, and we have wanted to work with the police and keep the particular circumstances of this campaign silent. Looking back at the warnings we have given. I think actually they have been quite explicit."

Mike Pitcher, director of operations at Barclays, said the bank had not specifically mentioned the bomber because it had been "guided by the police. They are the experts. The police wanted to keep the number of people who knew about this to an absolute minimum because they thought it would give the perpetrator time to trip himself up."

Mr Pitcher said the bank had sent out at least 12 warnings to staff since the bombing campaign started in December 1994. These had provided information about the nature of devices and

the new, fast, efficient



Staff at Barclays branches were not told of the blackmailer but were given warnings on security

were in addition to other 'very stringent security procedures".

"What we have done is remind staff of the need for continued vigilance." He said that staff also received regular training about security proce-

Senior officers admitted ves-

terday that they had no strong leads on the identity of the blackmailer. The name Mardi Gra was printed on the cover of the video boxes containing the first bombs sent in 1994. Many of the bombs have been made with shotgun cartridges which explode when the box containing them is opened.

Cunning criminal driven by a powerful grudge

By Stewart Tendler

en to abuse

F

THE Barclays bomber is a cunning criminal with an engineering background who works alone and is driven by a powerful grudge against the oank or anyone connected with it, psychological profilers have told police.

have consulted pyschologists and bomb experts to build up a picture of the attacker which shows that he may have been a customer or worked for the stage. He could still do so. Some of the bombs were

sent to the homes of bank officials, suggesting that he has had access to the bank's computer files. His obsession with Barclays is so strong that he has even attacked firms that supply the bank or have links with Barclaycard.

A Yard source said yesterday: "He is a loner with a clear specific grudge who possibly lives in London. He is a combination of the erratic and



Experts think the bomber designed the bombs himself. which suggests a military or engineering background. He also built wooden boxes to hold some bombs. One investigator said yesterday: "The things are well engineered. There is skill in how they have

Yard officers have consulted FBI experts involved in the hunt for the Unabomber, A man was arrested by American police last week in connection with a 17-year campaign against the spread of new technology that has led to three deaths. Ted Kaczynski, arrested for

the Unabomber attacks, led a

The bomber's demands

Now arriving

decision to follow police guide-

lines and issue general in-

structions about safety pro-

cedures rather than specific

solitary existence in the Montana hills. The Unabomber travelled across the United States striking at will. The Barciays bomber also struck whenever he chose. Police believe that he sometimes acted on the spur of the moment as he passed a building. "It is almost as if he drives around London and drops

have been vague and he has never come up with detailed proposals on how money should be raid, yet he is familiar with forensic science techniques and has taken care not to leave dues. His contacts with police through newspaper personal columns have been designed to avoid entrapment. Police have tried to tempt him into making contact by telephone but he has

Anti-terrorist detectives the careful planner. He will go for long periods doing nothing which shows he is pre-





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Skoda outshines German giants

British left standing by Japanese in car satisfaction survey

By Kevin Eason, motoring editor

CARS produced by traditional British manufacturers such as Ford and Vauxhall are rated among the worst in an authoritative survey on customer satisfaction launched yesterday. Rover fares slightly better in the J.D. Power league table. in which Skoda appears ahead of BMW and Mercedes.

The survey, which is regarded as the motorist's bible in America, checked the experi-ences of more than 14,000 owners of L-registered cars in Britain. The result is a comprehensive survey of what motorists think of their cars and dealers. Carmakers are sceptical. however, pointing out that the research took place three years ago. Skoda, which has been

transformed by Volkswagen. its new owner, will no doubt eschew this point of view after scoring highest of the Europeans in a league table dominated by Japanese manufac-

Honda is rated as the best overall manufacturer, followed by Toyota, Mazda, Subaru, Daihatsu and Mitsubishi. The survey is a near disaster for British manufacturers: Power executives, while refusing to disclose the full list of 32 makes, confirmed that the big volume makers

are "in the bottom third".

Of 72 models featured in the list, the highest placed Britishmade cars are Japanese - the Toyota Carina made in Derbyshire, the Honda Accord

74 Power 800
73 Land Rover Disco
72 Ford Gramada
72 Renault Espace
72 Fiat Uno
72 Vauxhall Catibra
71 Vauxhall Corsa
71 Vauxhall Sata

SATISFACTION FROM YOUR CAR

THE LEADING MAKES

83 Isuzu Trooper 83 Fiat Punto

81 Renault 19 81 Volyo 400

placed "traditional" British car, in 30th position, followed by the Jaguar XJ6 in 38th. Britain's best-selling car, the Ford Escort, is third from the bottom. Of the ten worst cars in the league table, six are Vauxhalls and two Fords.

from Wearside.

J.D. Power III, the company founder and president, said: "It is up to the manufacturers to take this information away with them and to use it to make major gains in their product quality. The Japanese led the way

in the US but the domestic manufacturers changed their ways. When we started in US manufacturers would face 170 to 180 faults for every 100 vehicles they made. Now that figure is down to 50. Pressure from consumers helped them change their ways." The survey shows 63 per cent of British owners are "very satisfied" with their cars compared with 77 per cent of owners in a similar survey in

Dealers fared much worse, with only 41 per cent of motorists being satisfied with the service they receive in the showroom and workshop. However, Dave Sargent, Power's director of European operations, said: Poor product quality gives dealers a much

Roger King, public affairs director for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said: "This survey is judging cars from three years ago, since when the industry has made enormous strides. The results do not explain why the Ford Mondeo, for example, is on the preferred list in almost every other survey but scores badly in this

The answer, according to Power researchers, might be because the volume manufacturers sell to tougher customers, the fleet buyers, while Japanese manufacturers tend to sell more to private buyers.



Nirley Sohal, daughter of VC winner Parkash Singh, visiting the exhibition yesterday with her husband Kanwal

Commonwealth heroes honoured

batteries which were vital to the national

defence 50 years ago. Of vital assistance

to historians are the hundreds of

photographs of British defences taken by

the Luftwaffe, now in German museums.

overgrown. Some were dismantled and

others are under threat from erosion.

The Army has no record of them and the

Ministry of Defence no longer necessar-

ily owns the land.

Many of the defences lie neglected and

BY JOHN YOUNG

NOTHING could stop Parkash Singh coming to the rescue of cornrades under fire. Now his hard-won Victoria Cross is one of the most treasured items in an exhibition honouring millions of Commonwealth volunteers who came to Britain's aid in wartime.

On January 6, 1943, Sergeant Singh was serving with the 5/8 Punjab Regiment, as part of the 14th Indian Division in the Arakan region of Burma, when the Japanese opened fire on two disabled Bren-gun carriers. He drove his own carrier out and successfully rescued the crews.

Two weeks later, on January 19, he carried out an almost identical rescue of two other crews. He connected a chain to a third carrier, containing two wounded men.

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Luftwaffe is to come to the aid of the

Dad's Army that defended Britain

against its onslaught, in an attempt to preserve Scotland's wartime heritage

The Defence of Scotland Project was

launched in Edinburgh yesterday and Home Guard veterans have been asked

to help the attempt to record the hund-

before it is too late.

yesterday when decorations won by Major Gen-eral Orde Wingate, right, leader of the Chindits in Burma, were sold for £56.500. The medals and memorabilia included his triple Distinguished Service Order, Colt revolver, Royal Artillery captain's tunic and a battered pith helmet. The collection was bought by an anonymous British collector at Sotheby's in Billingshurst. West Sussex, setting a record for non-Victoria

and towed it to safety under heavy anti-tank and machine-

Cross gallantry medals.

career in the Army he reached the rank of major and died in gun fire. The Viceroy, Lord
Linlithgow. presented Sergeant Singh's Victoria Cross
six months later. After a major and major and the first things and the fir tion at the Imperial War Museum. Field Marshal Lord Bramail, the former chief of staff, said at the opening that without the immense achievements of the Indian forces the war in Asia might never have

been won. In later life, when Mr Singh returned to the Punjab, he was known to everyone as VC. his daughters recalled. Nirlev lives in north-west London with her husband, Kanwal Sohal, a solicitor, and Mallika, their eight-year-old

daughter. The exhibition honours Commonwealth exploits in two world wars and in Korea. On a wall are the words of David Lloyd George after the First World War. "The causes of the war were unknown in India; its theatre in Europe remote. Yet India stood by its allegiance heart and soul from the first call to arms."

Luftwaffe joins Dad's Army in heritage battle spector of ancient monuments, said: The most urgent record required is the recollections of the people who built and manned the defences. These remains are a vital but neglected source of historical

> Stephen Wood, a military historian based at Edinburgh Castle, said 120 photographs taken from German aircraft during the war had so far been used and showed the defences with great clarity.

information.

Basics put. 5.6% more on typical food bill

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE cost of feeding a typical family has risen by 5.6 per cent in the past 12 months, according to research by the consultants Reward. Steve Flather of Reward, says that the rise can. be attributed to increases in the price of staple foods, such as potatoes, apples and eggs." Announced promotions

Asda: fresh beef sirloin steak £7.25 a kg. broccoli 59p a lb. strawberries 69p for 227g Budgens: fresh Cumberland pork sausages 99p for 454g, Filippo Berio extra-virgin olive oil El.90 for 250ml, English Ida Red apples 65p a kg. Co-op: fresh Scottish salmon steaks £1.99 for 226g cheeseboard selection tray £3.99 for 520g, pure orange juice £1.79 for 3 ltr.

Harrods: smoked salmon delice £2.95, Serrano ham £3.55 for 100g, kippers £3.10 a kg, mixed Dutch peppers £1.95

Iceland: breaded nuggets £3.79 for 50, part-boned chick-en breasts £3.99 for £5kg,

WEEKEND SHOPPING

button sprouts 99p for 907g, strawberry and vanilla New York cheesecake £1.99. Marks & Spencer: New Zealand lamb rib chops £7.49 akg. Bakewell tarts 85p for two, croissants 99p for eight.

Morrisons: mini Melton

Mowbray pork pies \$1.49 for six, oysters 29p each, light coleslaw 39p for 227g. Safeway: topside, silverside or top rump with added basting fat £4.39 a kg. British crumbed

ham 59p a 4 lb. New Zealand extra mature cheddar E2.19 a lb, grapefruit 29p each. Sainsburys: premium pork sausages £1.09 for 454g, ma-

ture blue Stitton El.67 a lb. oranges £1.19 for eight. Somerfield: fresh boneless leg of pork £2.99 a kg. tiger prawns £1.69 for 113g, cherry tomatoes 99p a lb. Tesco: pork spare rib chops

£2.79 a kg. braising steak

£3.29 a kg, medium free-range eggs El.41 for 12, frozen rasoberry pavlova £1.79. Waitrose: Aberdeen Angus sirloin steak £5.99 a lb. Royal Gala apples 49p a lb, new

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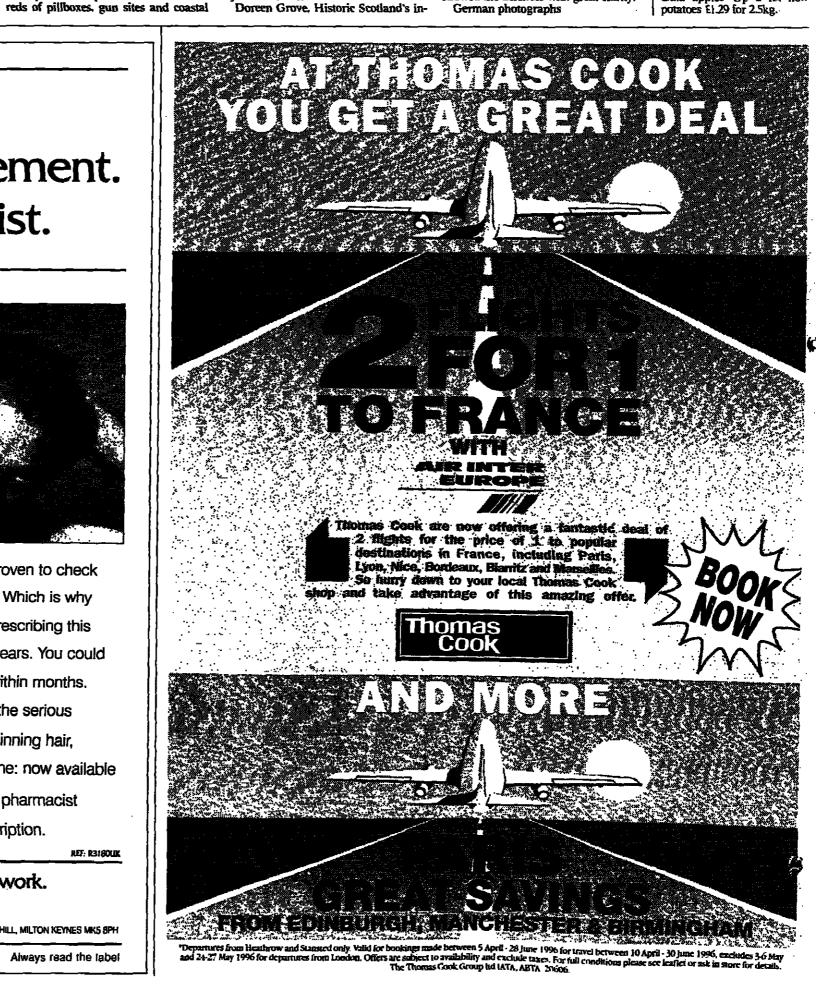
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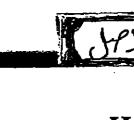
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APPENDING - V 数数 profe です

Twins help search for cause of disorder

By NIGEL HAWKES

OSTEOARTHRITIS, the commonest cause of joint pain, is partly inherited, a three-year study has shown. Until now the disease had

been attributed to injuries and general wear and tear. But a research team from St Thomas's Hospital in London and the Institute of Molecular Medicine in Oxford reports in the British Medical Journal that there is a

strong genetic component. The team compared the incidence of the disease in 250 pairs of identical and non-identical twins, and showed that between 39 and 65 per cent of the cases of osteoarthritis were attributable to genetic factors. The next target is to find the gene that predisposes towards the disease, to enable screening.



Identical twins Joan Robbens, left, and Joyce Shutes, whose condition was examined by the researchers

Scottish doctors may be authorised to allow death

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

DOCTORS in Scotland who stop treating coma patients regarded as incapable of recovery, allowing them to die, will not face criminal prosecution for murder or culpable homicide, the Lord Advocate said yesterday.

The statement from the Lord Advocate, Lord Mackay of Drumadoon, was made in the Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday as the case of

Janet Johnston, 53, reached the final stages of a legal hearing that has lasted eight months.

Mrs Johnston, who lived in Allanton, Strathchyde, has been in a persistent vegetative state in Law Hospital, Carluke, for four years after she took an overdose of her asthma medication. She is fed by nasal tube but breathes on her own and is not on a life-

Doctors said she had suf-

fered two seizures, causing brain damage. Since then she has been kept alive by intensive nursing. She opens her eyes occasionally but has not

reacted to stimuli. The case has been brought by the hospital, which is arguing that doctors should be allowed to let Mrs Johnston die peacefully, with dignity and in the least possible distress. It has the backing of

Mrs Johnston's family. The Lord Advocate has

made clear that for exemption from prosecution to be se-cured, the Court of Session would have to authorise the death of a patient.

Yesterday, Mrs Johnston's case was adjourned for the last time. A final decision on whether doctors can terminate treatment will be made by Lord Cameron of Lochbroom later this month.

The chief executive of Law Hospital NHS Trust, Ken Thomson, who was in court to

Mrs Johnston's husband Peter welcomed the court ruling on immunity from prose-cution. He said yesterday:

hear the Lord Advocate's state-

ment, said afterwards that he

very much welcomed it.

The staff at Law Hospital have done a lot for Janet. I don't want them to get into trouble if they stop feeding

"I just want my wife to die in peace and with dignity. Thank God Janet will soon be at rest." runs Natural Justice, a charity based in Ulverston, Cumbria, said: "If we can improve a

Prisoners volunteer for experiment

Vitamins may wean young offenders from diet of crime

By RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG offenders are to be given vitamin pills in a pilot project aimed at changing their anti-social behaviour. More than a hundred volunteers will take part in a sixmonth experiment at Aylesbury young-offender institution. It is hoped the project will show that a change of diet can reduce aggression.

The experiment, which begins next month, follows research in the United States that suggested links between offenders behaviour and deficiencies in vitamins and minerals. Volunteers will be given supplements containing zinc. fatty acids and other nutrients for comparison with a similar number of inmates who will take dummy pills. The trial

will cost more than £100,000. Bernard Gesch, who will run the project, said yesterday: Too many people are like jet fighters - refuelling on the move. They grab what they can and that tends to be snacks. Snack food is notoriously low in nutritional value." Mr Gesch, a former probation officer who now

person's health by nutritional supplements this will give us a much better chance at rehabilitating the offender."

By the end of the trial Mr Gesch expects to be able to compare the disciplinary records of the two groups, their wellbeing and their mental state. The project is being funded by a number of charities and is the first of its kind to be conducted in a British iail. A number of studies in the United States have indicated that prisoners suffered from serious deficiencies in vita-

mins C and Bl and zinc. Some studies have suggested that a lack of zinc could be linked with impaired control and depression. Derek Bryce-Smith, emeritus professor of chemistry at Reading University, said that work done with juveniles in Cumbria had found zinc deficiencies.

Mr Bryce-Smith "Many were depressed and tried to deal with that by seeking excitement, often through crime. Zinc supple-ments helped them feel better and prevented them doing daft things."

He stressed, however, that supplements were not a a panacea for criminal behaviour. "I am not saying that the whole problem of crime can be vitamins and minerals. including zinc, could change behaviour for the better."

There has been very little research in Britain on links between diet and behaviour. although a number of people in the criminal justice system believe changes in diet can lead to changes in mental state, particularly among hyper-active children.

Historically, diet has been used as an instrument of control in the prison system. In Victorian times diets were linked to a prisoner's behaviour and how much of their sentence had been served.

The pilot project was given a cautious welcome by a leading penal reform group yesterday. Stephen Shaw of the Prison Reform Trust said: "Some research has been done in the United States which maintains there is a link between fast foods and criminal behaviour. I think this could be a useful addition to our knowledge."
Dr Thomas Stuttaford, who

writes for The Times, said a zinc deficiency could lead to a lack of self-control. There is slim evidence that nutritional deficiencies can be related to bad behaviour in children but the evidence is pretty scant.

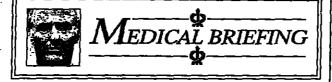
Comedian continues to smile through ten years of pain

who co-stars in the BBC quiz They Think If's All Over, has disclosed that for ten years he has suffered from ankylosing spondylitis.

This inflammatory rheumatic disorder principally affects the joints between the rertebrae of the spine and the ioints between the spine and the pelvis. It can also involve the peripheral joints, particularly when the victims are women or children. Hurst is a typical sufferer

in that he is male and was between the ages of 20 and 40 when the disease first-struck. It attacks 1 per cent of the general population, but 20 per cent of those who have a particular tissue type and carry the histo-compatibility antigen HLA-B27. This characteristic can be inherited.

As the arthritis in the spine develops, problems are not caused only by the pain from the inflamed joints but by an increasingly stiff back, which



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

can become so extreme that the spine becomes fused. The adopting a permanent stoop.

Patients may develop inflammation within the eye, inflammation of the covering of the heart, aortic valvular heart disease and lung complications. Stiffening of the joints of the chest does not by itself usually cause breathless ness but, as breathing is restricted, the lungs often become infected, requiring

treatment with antibiotics. Patients who are HLA-B27 positive have another grave

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disadvantage. They are liable to develop Reiter's syndrome back pain is worst in the if they catch non-specific mornings. Treatment with urethritis from a sexual partanti-inflammatory drugs is , ner, or from some forms of also causes severe arthritis and inflammation of the eyes and of the skin of the palms

Mr Hurst is unmarried and is reported in his interview to have referred to girlfriends. Reiter's is a forceful argument for monogamy. As a colleague used to tell patients who were found to be HLA-B27 positive "Some men are born to prefer monogamy — others have it thrust upon them. You belong to the latter group."

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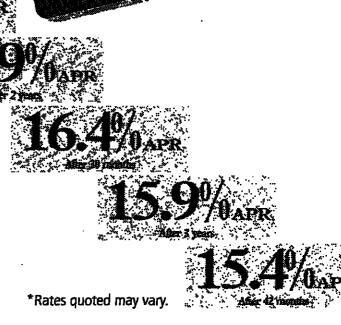
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Crater find suggests building blocks of life came from space

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

meteorite nearly two billion years ago strengthens the idea arrived on Earth from outer space. American scientists have found carbon molecules side the solar system. in the crater debris near Sudbury, Ontario, and have shown that they survived the fiery impact of an object the size of Mount Everest hitting The team measured the

The team from the Univer-sity of Rochester, New York State, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, California, report in Science magazine that the carbon was in the form of "buckyballs", also known as fullerenes — football-shaped molecules made up of 60 carbon atoms - and that trapped within them were atoms of helium. The helium

stowaways were a mixture of isotopes - different forms of the element — in a ratio that is not found on Earth, but is found in meteorites. This is strong evidence that the helium and the carbon in which it was encased originated out-

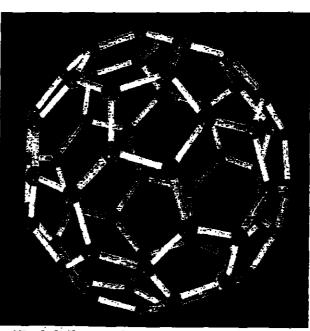
ratio of two helium isotopes, helium-3 and helium-1, and found that it was ten times higher than the ratio found in helium from the Earth's man-tle. The ratio of the helium inside the buckyballs is what we typically find in meteorites," says Professor Robert Poreda of the University of Rochester. "It's much higher than the ratio found anywhere on Earth.

Our results show clearly that this helium and these buckyballs are of extraterrestrial origin. If a meteorite or a

comet can deliver intact carbon molecules to the Earth's surface, then it's likely that other organic compounds can also survive an impact."

The Scripps scientists were surprised by the findings. "It just didn't make sense to either one of us that fullerenes could survive an impact like this,"
Dr LuAnn Becker says. The
crater covers nearly 700 square miles and the impact would have released a thousand times more energy than detonating every nuclear weapon on Earth.

If carbon did survive the impact, it fills a gap in the evolution of life on Earth. Two billion years ago there were no higher-level plants and no concentrated sources of carbon on Earth, yet all modern life forms are based on the chemistry of carbon. Where did it all come from? The new



"Buckyballs" were found to contain helium atoms which had originated outside our solar system

evidence backs the idea that it came from outer space, after being created in cool stars known as red giants.
I have to admit that I was a

very strong opponent of this view," says Dr Jeffrey Bada of Scripps, one of the authors. "I didn't think it would be a viable way to get organics on the Earth because I believed, as most people did, that these events were just too energetic for the stuff to survive. Now, all of a sudden, I have a

The buckyballs were found in the Sudbury crater two

years ago, but at the time Dr Bada believed them to have been formed in the impact. He has changed his mind because of studies of the helium inside them, using a mass spectrometer.

Buckyballs are exotic mole cules of carbon, first identified in 1985 by a team that included Professor Harold Kroto of Sussex University.

They were named Buckminsterfullerene because their structure resembles that of the geodesic domes designed by the late American

Gene discovery provides clue to causes of ageing

By NIGEL HAWKES

THE first human gene known to affect the ageing process has been identified

by American scientists. The gene has been isolated in people suffering from a rare genetic disease called Werner's syndrome. Nor-mal as children, sufferers begin to age rapidly in adolescence. They stop growing, their hair goes grey and they suffer several of the degenerative diseases of age, including blocked arteries. diabetes and bone thinning.

The discovery of the cause is an important finding because the changes are so like those of ordinary ageing. A team from Seattle Veterans Affairs Health Care System and Darwin Molecular Corporation, a biotechnology company in Seattle, reports the results in Science.

The gene identified is one that carries the genetic code for an enzyme called a helicase, whose job it is to unwind the two strands of the DNA double belix by breaking the hydrogen bonds that hold them togethhelicase is involved in many operations, including DNA replication and repair.

Failure of the DNA in cells to copy itself with perfect accuracy, and the consequent slow accumulation of errors, is one of the possible causes of ageing. "We are very excited about the discovery, and that the function of the gene product is apparently so clear," Dr David Gaias, executive vice-president of Darwin, said.

There is still a great deal to be learnt about the precise sses involved in the cell, but our work has now opened a new window into the biology of age-related diseases," he said. The scientific team, led by

Dr Gerard Schellenberg. concludes that the finding is evidence that "at least some components of normal age ing and disease susceptibil-ity in later life may be related to aberrations in DNA

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Eva Herzigova

Bra team gives flask a big lift

The Thermos flask is being given a racy new image by the man who thought up the Wonderbra adverts, featuring Eva Herzigova. The £500,000 advertising campaign by Trevor Beattie and his agency TBWA, to be launched this week, includes slogans such as "Leave it, Grandad."

Set piece

One of the first British-made television sets, a 1938 HMV model 904, fetched £2,760 at Christie's in London. It has a walnut cabinet, built-in wire-less and 4in by 43 in round screen — but no longer works with modern power systems or broadcasts.

Tranquil travel

Mobile telephones and personal stereos have been banned from certain carriages on Great Western trains between Paddington and South Wales. Passengers have also been asked to speak quietly. A spokesman said: "People seem to like the peace and quiet."

Research prize

Dr Paul Nurse, director of laboratory research at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London, has won the Dr H.P. Heineken Prize for biochemistry and biophysics, awarded by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts

Fire kills boy

A four-year-old boy died after fire broke out in his bedroom. Jason Ditch was rescued from the burning room at his home in Colchester, Essex, by firefighters, but died at the scene. His mother, Caroline, and brothers Jake, 6, and Jordan, 2, escaped unhurt.

Mane road ahead

Tal Valle mail triang

The first pelican crossing for horses, costing £20,000 and with traffic controls at saddle height, is being built on the Awsworth bypass in Notting-hamshire. The new relief road, which crosses a bridle path, also includes six underground tunnels for toads.

Overwork can be bad for your health

OVERWORK is a killer, re-searchers said yesterday, and the Government should support limits to the working week (Nigel Hawkes writes). Dr Susan Michie and Dr Ann Cockroft, of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, said evidence showed that higher workloads increase disease and death rates.

Writing in this week's Brit-ish Medical Journal, they quote a seven-year study of 2.465 Danish bus drivers, which showed that those who died or were admitted to hospital with heart attacks were those who drove the busiest routes. Job strain defined as a combination of high demand and low control increased mortality.

Why hard workers should die younger remains unknown, they admit. One possibility is that stress might increase hormone levels, or cause sleep disturbances. god de mand may lead to more accidents by causing increased clumsiness.

They called for strategies to reduce the working week: This should include making employers responsible for preventing work overload and stress, as well as providing help for individuals with work stress-related illness."

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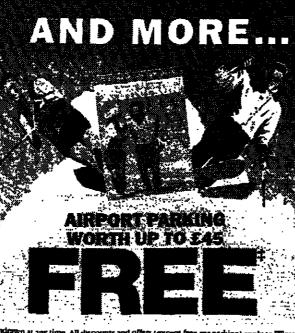
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good, the Prime Minister said the party and higher taxes went together like strawberries and cream". Speaking on a constituency visit in Cambridgeshire, Mr Major voiced deep scepticism over Mr Blair's attempt, in talks with financiers and a speech to businessmen, to reassure middle-class profes-

> penalise them. The Prime Minister said: "What he really plans, heaven alone knows. All I can say is every experience we have had from any Labour Government is that taxes go up. What we have seen from local authorities run by the Labour Party across the country is council

sionals that Labour would not

forever linked to higher taxes.

With the Labour leader trum-

pering the message from New

York to Washington that he

has buried that image for

By Philip Webster in London and Peter Riddell in New York JOHN MAJOR tried to dent taxes going up. Labour and the impact of Tony Blair's higher taxes go together like American visit yesterday by declaring that Labour was strawberries and cream.

Irritated Tories try

to rain on Blair's

American parade

The reality is the Labour Party always wants to spend more money and you can't spend more money unless you're going to put up taxes. Now, if he will tell us why he's suddenly in favour of low taxes, perhaps he can explain why he hasn't supported our tax-cutting over the years, even in the last budget,

'I don't think he can explain that. This seems in me to be another indication that the Labour Party will say almost anything if they think it will win them some temporary support. But I don't believe he is in favour of tax-cutting. I don't believe he could deliver tax-cutting. It is against the instinct of the Labour Party."

Mr Major's remarks reflected the irritation among ministers at the wide media coverage Mr Blair won for his visit. Labour officials were dismissive of the Prime Minis-

The man on almost everyone's guest list

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BY THE time Tony Blair tonight there will be scarcely a senior member of the Clinton Administration nor a leading American opinion-

former that he has not met. The only major players the Labour leader will not encounter during his 24 hours in the American capital are Bob Dole, Newt Gingrich and the other Republican masters of Congress who are conveniently out of town.

Mr Blair will be received by President Clinton, Al Gore, the Vice-President, and House this morning and was

party last night. He also had a meeting late yesterday with Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Sir John Kerr, the British Ambassador, was last night hosting a dinner for Mr Blair at which the guests were to include the Gulf War commander Colin Powell. Whether Mr Blair's visit

generates extensive coverage in the US media remains to be seen. He was interviewed on ABC's Good Morning America yesterday, and will be seen at this morning on the Fox network's breakfast CBS nor NBC, the two other

ter's comments, which a senior adviser to Mr Blair described as "more evidence of the Government behaving like an opposition". In his speech to business-

men yesterday, Mr Blair argued that Labour did not have to regard high tax as "a virility symbol or as a badge of political pride. He stressed the increase in tax faced by ordinary people under the Conservatives and said that Labour's top priority should be to lower taxes at the bottom end and reduce the appallingly high marginal rates of tax millions of work-

ing people pay".

The Labour leader said that this "should not be seen as a desire to punish those at the tup". Many people with "modest income", such as some policemen, schoolteachers and middle-managers, were currently paying the higher rate of tax, he said.

Mr Blair did not make any precise commitments, but claimed: "New Labour needs no persuasion of the need to encourage entrepreneurs, in-novators and wealth creators. i want a system where people can become wealthy through hard work and merit, not rely on inheritance or a better class of accountants."

Mr Major was asked if Mr Blair was stealing his thunder. He replied: "It sounds to me as though he realises that what the Conservative Party stands for is what the people of this country stand for, but that isn't what the Labour Party stands for and it isn't what the Labour Party can deliver.

Tories believe in low taxes. If we put taxes up it's because we've no choice. The gut instinct of the Labour Party is to spend more and put taxes up. He said last year that you can only tell what a party's like when it's in power. Labour is in power in local country. Council tax has gone

Wowing Wall St. page 21



Tony Blair in talks with the multi-millionaire financier George Soros, regarded as a connoisseur of power

Bankers and brokers pay homage to a Prime Minister in waiting

WHEN an American sion-fund manager asked about the reference to enterprise in the new Clause Four of Labour's constitution, Tony Blair knew his party was being taken seriously again. For the first time in nearly two decades, a Labour leader visiting America is being treated

Higher taxes and Labour go together like strawberries and cream, says Major

as a potential Prime Minister. The most striking feature of the Blair visit is how he, and his views, are being probed as if he might soon be in office. It started on the plane on Wednesday, when he was questioned by passengers and by the cabin crew who claimed they were thinking of voting Labour. In New York, he has been given the official mark of leadership status by those two connoisseurs of power, Henry Kissinger and George Soros, as well as being feted by the media and by the Democrat

said to be tense, as if Mr Blair

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

was making a presentation on behalf of "New Labour pic" to sceptical institutional investors. There was apparently a touch of the "third degree". The audience was already well-informed about Labour - partly thanks to a recent visit by Gordon Brown - and asked about policies on inflation, a single currency and the Bank of England. This interest was not because those present are pro-Labour -such investors are not enthusiastic about any politicians but rather because they want to know about who is, or is likely to be, in power.

This interest has encouraged Mr Blair to clarify his message. It is partly reassurance - that Labour would be a safe bet for inward investplenty for the Tories to argue about in Labour's commit-

ment to the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty and to the minimum wage. But Mr Blair has established in the public and business mind that Labour has changed substantially — not least by transforming its structure to bypass its more ideological activists, "freeing it from the excessive influence of pressure and interest groups," as

he put it yesterday. But what Mr Blair has only really begun recently to do is to show how Labour's policies would differ from the Tories. This is less to do with detailed policies than with broad strategic direction.

In his speech yesterday Mr Blair took that forward. It was not just his claim that Labour is a party of the Centre as well as the Centre-Left. It was opening up markets and enlems and priorities in equipping people and business to succeed in a more competitive

The key theme, stressed more clearly yesterday than before, is that Mr Blair sees an active role for government in handling such change in an era of economic insecurity. This involves policies for government to work in partner-ship with business and measures to improve education and skills and to reform the welfare state.

This can be seen as common ground between the main parties. After all, while David Blunkett and Gillian Shephard argue about selection, they have similar approaches to improving standards in schools. But there are key differences over the extent of regulation and the balance between the government and free markets. Mr Blair has will have to justify his view that governments really can make a difference.

Greens in attempt to recapture lost glory

By Andrew Pierce

THE Green Party, which once seemed poised to break into mainstream politics in Britain, launched its local government election campaign yesterday in an attempt to regain the national spotlight.

Party activists, outnumbering a solitary reporter and camera crew by four to one. had seemed hopeful when queues of people formed at Conway Hall, London, the venue for a press conference. Their optimism quickly vanished when they realised that the crowds were waiting to audition next door for a university student production of The Deep Blue Sea.

The Greens' membership has fallen to 4,600 from a peak of 20,000 in 1989, the year they polled 2.5 million votes, 15 per cent of the total cast, in the European elections. It was the year they promised to transform the political landscape.

But since 1991 their opinion poll rating, according to MORI, has been stuck firmly on 1 per cent. They attracted only 1.6 per cent of the vote at the last general election and 25 3.5 per cent in the 1904 European elections.

The party boasts of having more than 100 councillors, but closer analysis shows that only 19 are at district level: the rest are parish councillors. It is fielding 288 candidates in next month's local elections compared with almost 700 last year, although fewer seats are being fought.

However, optimism ruled supreme at the yesterday's launch. Members were flying flags from the Taiwan Green Party, which they helped to launch in January, and which has already succeeded in hav-ing its first MP elected. They promised to continue to be visible in bypass protests. They are planning an assault on the Metropolitan boroughs of Leeds and Kirklees and

Davd Taylor, the party's principal spokesman, said they were involved in real issues, not fluffy ones. "We have been going for 23 years. We are the oldest Green Party proper credit and do not have any national representation because of the iniquities of the voting system."

have high hopes of two gains.

How not to eat cat food.



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Royal National Institute for the Blind

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customers. RNIB also encourages the stores to provide staff to read out prices and give directions. RNIB's work is especially important if you consider many visually impaired people live alone. For more details about RNIB call 0345 023040.



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Halifax Solid Gold (90 Day Notice)	3.30%	3.30%	3.60%	4.35%	4.35%	4.85%
Lloyds Bank Investment (90 Day Notice)	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.25%	4.25%	4.65%
Barciays Bank Select (90 Day Notice)	N/A	. 4.45%	4.45%	4.70%	4.70%	4.75%
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WORLD

SUMMARY

UN attack

on French

'racism'

Geneva: A United Nations special investigator rejected

French claims to be a haven for human rights yesterday

when he gave a severe account

of racism and xenophobia

sweeping the country, in part with official blessing (Peter

in a report on his mission

last October, Maurice Glèle-

Ruling party emerges with election lead

North Korean threats backfire in Seoul poll / Ex

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN SEOUL

WITH more than three fifths of the vote counted, the ruling New Korea Party (NKP) held a clear lead in South Korea's parliamentary elections which dealt a humiliating blow to Kim Dae Jung, the opposition

A record low 63.9 per cent of the electorate took part in yesterday's poll, which was contested against a backdrop of increasing tension with North Korea. Many people chose to get away for the national holiday instead of voting, although there were street battles in Seoul between anti-government students and

Last night the NKP led in 123 electoral districts, followed by Kim Dae Jung's National Congress for New Politics (NCNP) in 66. The conservative United Liberal Democrats (ULD) led in 39 districts, the Democratic Party in nine districts and independents in 16. There were 200 seats at stake. including 46 decided on a proportional basis. Chang Dasaro, an NKP

spokesman, said that President Kim Young Sam would have no difficulty maintaining his mandate for the remainder of his term. "We will be able to hold onto our parliamentary majority by fielding sympa-thetic independents," he said.

Mr Chang predicted that the NKP would secure 138 sears, including their proportional seats. 12 fewer than the 150 needed for an absolute

majority. Earlier predictions by three television networks based on a mixture of exit polls and telephone surveys turned out gains by the NKP.

Kim Dae Jung, 72 who marched back on to the political scene last year after big opposition gains in local elections in June, suffered a serious setback. He had said that

cy next year only if yesterday's of the 1953 armistice polls showed the people to be

Ruling party officials and analysts attributed the strong showing for the NKP to recent North Korean forays into the border area, which boosted the NKP's chances by persuading people to support the Government at time of threat.

"I think Kim Jong II [the North Korean leader] helped the NKP a lot," Lee Ho Jae, a political science professor at Korea University, said. The election outcome ech-

oed what happened in the presidential election in Taiwan last month, when President Lee Teng-hui was victorious after China attempted to intimidate Taiwanese voters by conducting missile tests in the Taiwan Strait. North Korea sent troops into the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Koreas in three consectutive forays

About 1,000 extreme-leftwing students fought the police near Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, hurling firebombs to counter volleys of teargas in a protest against the elections. "Overthrow Kim Young Sam and conservative politicians," the students shouted as they threw hundreds of firebombs at the riot police. Several police officers were engulfed in flames, but there were no serious casualties, witnesses said.

The strong showing for the conservative ULD, headed by Kim Jong Pil, the former Korean Central Intelligence Agency chief, was boosted by areas loyal to Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo, the jailed former Presidents. They are on trial charged with corruption and with leading a military rebellion that brought Mr Chun to power in



President Kim Young Sam prepares to vote in yesterday's general election

crime's profits at \$1,000bn

FROM REUTER

ORGANISED crime gangs make \$1,000 billion (£660 billion) a year in profits and are so powerful economically that they pose a threat to developing countries and emerging democracies, a United Na-

Organised

tions official said yesterday.

The profits include \$1 billion laundered through global financial markets every day. Eduardo Vetere, head of the Vienna-based UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division, told a confer-

ence in Manila, He said that the estimated total of criminal profits almost equalled the annual budget of the United States. "Free trade and high-speed telecommunications make it easier to engage in multiple activities and launder money across national borders, with an estimated \$1 billion in crime profits wire-transferred through the world financial

markets every day. He added: "It has become clear that only by tackling organised crime in a concerted manner can we hope to make inroads into a problem that transcends borders and the capacity of national mech-

Ahanhanzo, the special investigator, said xenophobia had been fuelled by the public statements of French politicians as well as by tough nationality and immigration laws passed in 1993. FBI warning on Unabomber mail

Capella writes).

New York: Timber executives in northwestern America have been told by federal investigators to check their post in case the Unabomber suspect. Theodore Kaczynski, mailed a bomb before his arrest last week (Quentin Letts writes). FBI sources said a device found at Mr Kaczynski's Montana cabin bore an address and, like the deadly parcels sent by the Unabomber, also had a false sender's name and

Harare looking for a hangman

Harare: The Zimbabwe Government, which has more than 100 prisoners under sentence of death, is making secret approaches to prison staff to find a hangman Uan Raath writes). The last incumbent, who was never named. died last month, taking the secrets of his trade to the grave. "He did not want to teach anyone else the job." a

America expels Sudan envov

New York: Ahmed Yousif 🤌 Muhammad, second secretary at Sudan's United Nations mission, was expelled from the US as part of Washington's campaign to isolate Sudan's Islamic regime (James Bone writes). He was implicated in plots to blow up the UN building in 1993 and to kill President Mubarak of Egypt.

Africans sign nuclear treaty

Cairo: Forty-three African states signed a treaty declaring Africa free of nuclear weapons. President Mubarak of Egypt told the signing ceremony the Africans had set an example which the Middle East and rest of the world should follow. (Reuter)

Save the Children Right now, Children are

The fighting in Liberia has escalated dramatically. Children have been forced to flee their homes and villages, dodging bullets and mortar fire. There is no embassy for them to run to. Many children have received horrific injuries and lost one or both parents. Thousands of children face possible death.

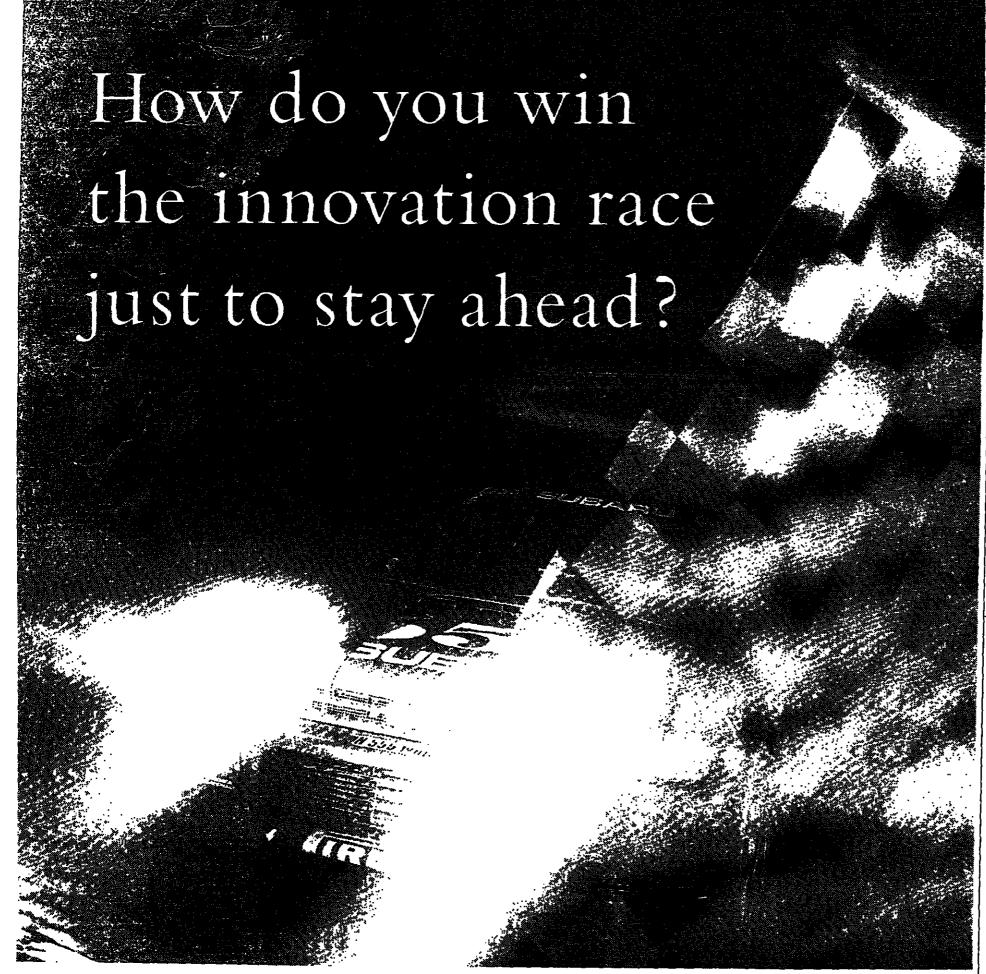
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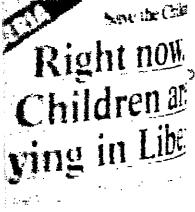
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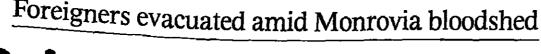
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VERTA



Briton condemns UN over escape ordeal in Liberia

By LEYLA LINTON

ONE of the first Britons evacuated from Monrovia, the Liberian capital, condemned the United Nations yesterday for refusing to help her when her life was in danger.

Wendy White, 38, from Staplehurst, Kent, said that, to the sound of gunfire, she and her colleagues had made a terrifying six-mile journey through the city only for officials at the UN's Riverview compound to refuse them admission for four hours. UN officials also tried to stop her and her friends from boarding one of two helicopters leaving the compound.

The officials told her and her companions that they were not a priority and that the helicopters were not in-tended to help with evacuation. But the German pilots refused to leave without passengers and Ms White and other Britons were eventually given seats after UN personnel were ordered not to leave.

In the confusion one Briton, lan Christmas, 41, from Doncaster, was left behind and is believed now to be without adequate supplies of food and water. Our fear now is that he and the others could be taken hostage," said Ms White, who returned to Britain yesterday.

She and her friends had sheltered in the house of a World Food Programme official in Monrovia for three days. "He was very good, but most of them kept themselves to themselves, to the point and there was a big gust of where we felt they were keep-wind. My legs turned to jelly

ing supplies to themselves."

By last Monday Ms White said the rebels had looted the Mobil compound next door. We knew we were next, and we were constantly under fear of attack. Towards the end food was running out."

Ms White, Andrew Dunham, her partner, and fellow Briton David Wood-Roberts finally boarded one of the helicopters at dusk on Monday. When they arrived in Freetown after a two-hour

6 Nothing had prepared me for Monrovia; it is a hell hole. Every single building was a shell 🤊

flight. Ms White said she kissed the tarmac. "I really thought I was going to die." she added.

Ms White's ordeal began when she was woken by shots and grenade explosions at 3.30am last Saturday as rebels surrounded General Roosevelt Johnson's house just two blocks from the hotel where she was staying. At 8am a rocket-propelled grenade hit the top floor while she was at reception. "The door was open

Troops of peace force join in looting

> By James Bone AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

WEST African peacekeepers joined in "very heavy, very systematic" looting as fighting continued yesterday in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, United Nations officials said. Sylvana Foa, for the UN,

and I felt queasy. I started

thinking of home," she said.

For the next 30 minutes she

and Mr Dunham waited anx-

iously as rebels surrounded

the hotel. "All we could hear

was gunlire. We left like sitting ducks." Half an hour

later, soldiers from the West

African peacekeeping force came to the hotel with two

tanks to evacuate the guests. As one of the soldiers led them

out to the convoy of cars, he

She is glad to have escaped,

but she had harsh words for the UN. "We have been ap-

palled by the UN presence.

They have so many staff and

what are they doing?"
Now she is worried about

her countrymen still in Libe-

ria. "There are a hell of a lot of

Britons still out there. We are

desperate for them, we are very worried - lan has a wife

and two children," she said. Ms White who, with Mr

Dunham, a pilot, had gone to

Liberia to set up a Liberian

registered airline, added:

Nothing prepared me for

Monrovia. It is a hell hole.

Every single building was a

shell, with toddlers playing on

the lifteenth floor of window-

She added that it was ex-

tremely difficult to do business

in the country. Every time you wanted to do something

you had to give backhanders."

She added that her and Mr

Dunham's company. Liberty Air, had just managed to land

a few contracts when the

less buildings.

fighting broke out.

was shot at.

said reports from the UN mission spoke of a "frenzy of looting" and that it appeared leaders of the warring factions had lost control of their

UN sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it appeared some West African peacekeepers, particularly Nigerians, had joined in the looting. The peacekeeping force, consisting of soldiers from the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States, was sent to Liberia in 1990 and is known as Ecomog.

UN military observers were forced to take refuge in the US Embassy compound during the looting. A UN scout team which toured the city found "systematic looting every-where", but UN headquarters lost contact with its offices in Mamba Point, two miles from the city centre, where "UN Row" and the US Embassy are located. The 73 UN military observers in Monrovia their headquarters in Mamba Point when the gates were broken down by looters.

The UN Children's Fund and UN Development Programme offices were also reported to have been plundered, and 12 UN staff are said to have sought shelter at the US Embassy. The offices of the World Health Organisation were looted earlier in the



Starr signs: Starr Lammon, of Napa, California, cradling her youngest daughter Nicolette, who was born on Monday — exactly the same date as her mother and two sisters Jeirlynn, 12, left, and Ashley, aged 2

Fifteen die in German airport fire

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AT LEAST 15 people were reported killed and more than 100 injured when a fire broke out in a flower shop at Düsseldorf international air-

port yesterday. Many of the casualties were overcome by thick smoke through which firefighters had to search for the victims before the blaze was brought under control, witnesses said. Police said many of the deaths appeared to have been caused by inhaling poisonous gas. The dead were found in the shop and a lift, said police.

who added that the death

count could rise because of the seriousness of some of the

A policeman and a child were among nine of the dead who were found in the lift system. Tents were set up to treat the casualties,

The fire spread rapidly through Terminal A. which primarily serves Lufthansa, police said. A fire service spokesman said that the cause of the fire was not yet known, but the shop where the fire started was undergoing repairs. All firefighting units in Düsseldorf were deployed to put out the blaze, while fire engines and teams poured in to help from the surrounding

Panic broke out in the arrivals hall when the fire erupted. Officials evacuated the terminal and closed the airport to all air traffic, police

ZDF television showed pictures of a deserted, smoky terminal after the fire and a body covered with a white sheet on a stretcher on the street outside.

"My co-worker saw sparks flying out of a ventilation grille over this flower store, and he immediately called the fire brigade," an unidentified young man told the television

Uninjured travelers were transported to hotels or to the Konrad Adenauer Airport that services Cologne and Bonn. where planes that had been scheduled to arrive at Düsseldorf were being redirected. Access roads to the airport were closed.

Düsseldorf is Germany's second busiest airport in terms of passengers after

Leaders lose control of gunmen in capital

FROM BUDU KAISA IN MONROVIA

A WOMAN who had not eaten since she gave birth several days before lay groaning on the concrete floor of the casualty clinic, next to two young men shot in the back by the gummen who baye. turned Monrovia into a city of bloodlust

We are trying to manage but there is e " cold the French doctor with Medecins Sans Frontières, one of a team of seven who have refused the chance of a flight to

safety on American helicopters. The exhausted doctor said that many people all over the city were wounded.

Lafferty: takes £2.9m in settlement of estate

What the

butler got

New York: A long-running

dispute over the will of the

tobacco heiress Doris Duke

has ended with her bibulous

butler accepting a lump sum of \$4.5 million (£2.9 million)

in return, Bernard Lafferty.

who is harely able to read and

has admitted to being an

alcoholic, has agreed to resign

as a co-executor of the estate.

Towards the end of Miss

Duke's life she fell increasing-

ly under the spell of the

The agreement clears the

way for the remainder of the

fortune, bar the fees of advis-

ers, trustees and attendants, to

be distributed to the charities

ponytailed Mr Lafferty.

named by Miss Duke.

(Quentin Letts writes).

because of the fighting, which was also preventing drugs and dressings reaching treatment centres.

While a handful of expatriates remain to help Liberians, the gummen seem bent on tribal massacre, and indiscriminate killing. Yesterday fighters fired a rocket into the Greystone compound, an Ameriand anarchy. The second of the second size where 15,000 civilians were sheltering. The rocket killed two Lawlessness has overtaken Monrovia

since Charles Taylor and Al Haji Kromoh, members of a nascent coalition Government, accused Roosevelt Johnson, their Krahn tribal rival, of murder and unleashed a bloody campaign to

Tyson in training

with Islam to

beat temptation

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

his visit Mr Tyson discussed setting up a series of youth

centres in Chicago - a per-

haps implausible claim given the late hour. The assault.

termed "sexual battery" in the

police complaint, allegedly

occurred at 1.30am in a private

room towards the back of the club, a fashionable establish-

ment where ordinary

clubgoers can expect to mingle

with the celebrities who have made it one of their haunts.

Muhammad Siddeg, a spir-

itual adviser who has taught

Mr Tyson the tenets of his

new-found faith, said that his

pupil was learning a routine of

prayer, charity and fasting,

trying to recognise the good-

ness of all human beings and

trying to avoid those kind of

things that keep us going in

Clique that night was no

place for avoiding temptation.

The women were beautiful

and the music was loud. Mr

Tyson, who remains on parole

after his 1992 rape conviction.

had gone to Chicago ostensi-

bly to worship at a mosque.

but when he was through with

his prayers he made for one of

the best known honeypots in

town. Mr Tyson was drinking nothing stronger than cran-berry juice, said his lieuten-

ants, but George Walker, chief

probation officer for Marion County's Superior Court crim-

inal division, said: "Bars are not the best place for

parolees."

Mike Tyson."

left Clique together.

the right direction".

MIKE TYSON, the heavy-weight boxing champion, re-mained silent yesterday about

a woman's allegation that he

assaulted her in a Chicago

His Islamic spiritual advis-

er, however, said that "Iron

Mike" was prayerful and that

although he recently mastered

the five daily supplications a devout Muslim must recite, he

faced a "never-ending strug-gle" with temptation.

Police said they were taking

"appropriate action" regard-

ing the complaint of a 25-year-old woman that Mr Tyson bit

her face after they kissed in a

discotheque early on Monday

morning. The unnamed wom-

an's lawyer, Jerry Lee Peetet,

said that there were two

witnesses. She claimed that

Mr. Tyson summoned her

after seeing her on the dance

behind the closed door of his

large house in Southington,

Ohio, but friends disputed the

suggestion that Mr Tyson was

with the woman in a roped-off

part of the slick Clique club. A

member of the club manage-

ment claimed that throughout

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The boxer himself remained

nightclub.

floor.

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but could not reach hospitals and clinics arrest him last week. His fighters returned in kind. Paul Koulen, the deputy representative

of the United Nation's Development Programme, said: "The conflict is out of control Charles Taylor and Al Haji Kromoh made a monstrous miscalculation. They have forced a re-alliance of forces along tribal lines. None of them has control or can restore public order. It is anarchy." Moments earlier his offices and care look armed with AK47 rifles.

I have been in Liberia throughout the civil war, which broke out in 1989. In the worst days of 1990 and 1992 the warlords had some kind of control over their men. but even this has vanished.

Marital slip-up for ice skater

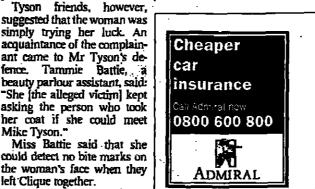
By OUENTIN LETTS

TONYA HARDING, the bad girl of ice skating, has sued for divorce after less than four months of marriage. When it comes to triple salcos, Miss Harding is mustard, but in her private life she has repeatedly fallen flat on her rump. The divorce action was

started this week in Oregon after Miss Harding experi-enced "irreconcilable differ-ences" with her second husband, Michael Smith. She wished him happiness and success in his career (he is a machinist) and hoped the good wishes were reciprocated (unlikely). It seems a different world from December 23, the day of their white wedding on board a yacht.

The wedding was sealed from the press because the couple hoped to sell exclusive photographs of the event to a tabloid newspaper. Fisticuffs, a car chase and screamed insults followed when it was discovered that one of the wedding guests had sold snap-shots of the bride and groom to an Oregon publication.

In January 1994 Jeff Gillooly, Miss Harding's first husband, plotted to inflict a knee injury on Miss Har-ding's then Olympic ice-skating rival, Nancy Kerrigan. Miss Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges and paid \$160,000 (£106,000) in fines and costs.







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Gibraltar tension rises after drug chase death

By Dominique Searle in Gibraltar and Edward Owen

A DRAMATIC helicopter pursuit of a drug-running power boat racing for the Spanish coast ended yesterday when the helicopter crashed, killing a Civil Guard.

The smugglers apparently threw an oar into the aircraft's

The incident has caused a new diplomatic tug-of-war over the disputed territory hetween Britain and Spain. The boat was registered to a Briton and the involvement of a Gibraltarian has renewed Spanish anger over the use of Gibraltar for the illicit import of tobacco and drugs into Spain, often from North Africa.

Spain immediately imposed tough new border controls on routes between Spain and Gibraltar, causing delays of up to three hours for cars and increasing the transit time for pedestrians from a few minutes to half an hour.

Cesar Braña, the Civil Governor of Cadiz, announced the imposition of "severe and strict" controls after the death of José Muntildaoz Hidalgo, a Civil Guard aircraft

The helicopter pilot and his communications officer were three men in the Gibraltarhad allegedly dumped some 1,300lb of cannabis on a beach at Barbate de Franco, near Cape Trafalgar. Yesterday David Brighty,

the British Ambassador to Madrid, was summoned by the Spanish Foreign Ministry to hear Jose Rodriguez Spitiri. Madrid's head of European diplomacy, express Spain's "profound irritation" at the incident and complain that Britain had failed to introduced effective measures on the Rock to combat illicit activities.

A Spaniard escaped from the scene but two other men, a Moroccan and a Gibraltarian, were arrested.

Señor Braña said yesterday that a broken oar was found in the smugglers' boat, indicating that it may have been thrown into the helicopter's machinery. Eve-witnesses spoke on Spanish television of the aircraft's runner hitting the water and knocking it out of control.

In Gibraltar on Wednesday. Paul Alan Tremayne, a Briton who is registered as owner of the vessel, was detained on suspicion of wasting police time after he reported the boat stolen. Royal Gibraltar police uninjured in the crash after have indicated that his report came after news of the incident registered rigid inflatable boat had broken on radio. Rigid



A powerful rigid inflatable boat, of the sort used by smugglers between North Africa and Spain via Gibraltar, speeds towards the Rock

inflatable boats are used by smugglers because of their long range. They often move across the strait at high speed at night without lights.

In an almost daily duel, Spanish Civil Guard helicopters and launches try to catch the smugglers who race across to Spain with cheap tobacco from the Rock as well as hashish brought from Moroc-co. Recently Britain had agreed to ban the use of some 200 high-powered speedboats. with names such as Midnight Express, that were moored in Gibraltar's marinas. Their crews would cross the few hundred yards to Spain when the all-clear, or the presence of a bribed Spanish official, was by mobile signalled

Last July the Gibraltar authorities seized all 64 rigid inflatable boats based on The Rock. Strict quotas and controls on cheap American tobacco were later introduced, resulting in an end to the widespread tobacco smuggling. Spain partly relaxed controls at the frontier last autumn in response to the move and Gibraltar authorities demanded detailed paperonly 12 vessels were returned in rules aimed at avoiding owners obtaining court orders which on previous occasions have succeeded in defeating legislation. However, it is known that some sinugglers had moved their bases to Ceuta, the Spanish North African enclave, and some Spanish coastal villages.

Leading article, page 17



London pledges action to halt the smugglers' speedboats

By MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN last night expressed deep regret at the death of the Spanish Civil Guard killed while pursuing drug smugglers near Gibraltar, and insisted that it was committed to stamping out smuggling on the Rock.

The Foreign Office said it would co-operate in the investigation, and announced an immediate check on the speedboats licensed in Gibraltar. However, a spokesman said that since July there had been tighter control on the licensing of fast inflatable boats, and the Gibraltar Government had reduced their number from 65 to 11.

The Foreign Office, while not rejecting Spain's protest to David Brighty, the British Ambassador, suggested that this did not take account of the co-operation between Britain and Spain to curb smuggling into southern Spain. It noted that the 30-minute meeting had been "businesslike" - diplomatic language for sharp and cool - and said the ambassador had reiterated Britain's commitment to last year's measures to tighten law and order in Gibraltar. The Government is

embarrassed that the incident has revived Spanish protests over Gibraltar at a time when it hoped that Gibraltar's new laws on drug smuggling and money laundering, enacted last July, would reduce tensions with Madrid over the

Earlier, Britain's troubled relations with Gibraltar led to a confrontation between the Foreign Office and the Government of Joe Bossano, the Chief Minister, that almost culminated 18 months ago in the suspension of the Rock's constitution and the imposition of

At issue was the chorus of complaints from Spain and Brussels that Gibraltar was becoming a haven for cigarette smuggling. drug running and money laundering. Madrid accused Mr Bossano of refusing to co-operate in countering smuggling, and imposed draco-nian border restrictions, with long delays and rigorous customs searches. Britain protested to Madrid. But at the same time the Foreign Office demanded that Gi-

smuggling and comply fully with EU banking directives. From the summer of 1994 until

braltar take swift steps to curb

December, Douglas Hurd, then Foreign Secretary, had an acrimonious correspondence with Mr Bossano, insisting that he do more to put into effect dozens of EU directives that were being circumvented. Britain offered to send over officials to help draft legislation. It gave Mr Bossano a deadline of January 1995 to comply.

Finally, as relations between Britain, Spain and Gibraltar became ever more tense. Mr Hurd and Javier Solana, then Spanish Foreign Minister, met in London to agree on measures to halt the use of the Rock for smuggling and ensure that differences on Gibraltar did not derail overall relations between Britain and Spain.

Britain is responsible for Gibraltar's dealings with the EU and its external relations under the 1969 constitution. The British Government, wary of suggestions that it is ready to see an eventual transfer of sovereignty, has refused to discuss Gibraltar's status in the regular meetings with Spain. Under the Treaty of Utrecht, which ceded the Rock to Britain, the territory cannot opt for independence: if Britain relinquishes control, sovereignty returns to Spain

Riddle of Paris murder house

speech elbn

Karadzic 'M

It's ea

Move to 14

FROM SUSAN BELL

THE mysterious and violent deaths of two successful architects and their children is gripping France and puzzling police. The bodies of Piotr Zakrzewski, 48, his wife Marguerite. 46, and their sons, Adam, 16, and Arthur, 12, were found this week in the family home in Sceaux, a wealthy Paris suburb. Marguerite Zakrzewski was

hanging in her nightdress in the stairwell. At her feet lay Arthur, who apparently died from strangulation. A thick rope around his neck was attached to the barmister. The knots were described by one investigator as having been loosened, as if they had been

undone after the murder.

Upstairs, Piotr lay on the couple's bed, his throat slit. There were several knife wounds to his body. On the ground floor, Adam lay dead in his bedroom. His throat had also been cut.

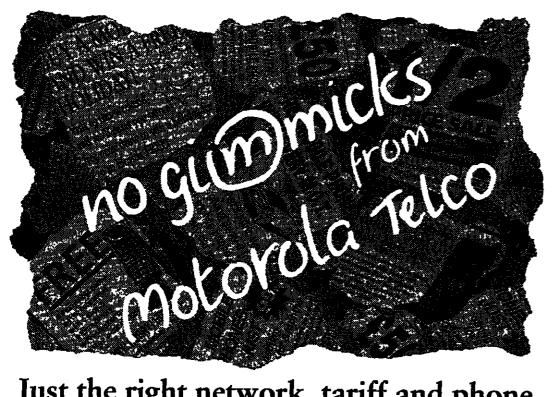
The bodies were found on Tuesday afternoon by a friend who attended the nearby Lycée Lakanal, where the brothers were pupils. The boy had invited Adam to the cinema on Sunday but he had refused without giving a reason. When neither brother attended classes after the Easter weekend, the boy visited the Zakrzewskis' house. Through the half-open door, he saw Mme

Zakrzewski's body. The police think that cither the family were the victims of a murderer, or the husband and two sons were killed by Mme Zakrzewski before she committed suicide.

Investigators have ruled out burglary. Everything was clean as if it had been tidied up, the police say.

The police suspect that the father and elder son were killed in their sleep. No trace of blood was found on Mme Zakrzewski's body or clothing. The weapon used to kill Piotr and Adam is missing.

According to a female relation interviewed by the police, the couple did not have any financial or marital problems. They emigrated to France from Poland in the early 1970s. studied architecture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts before founding their award-winning architecture firm, PLI, in 1981



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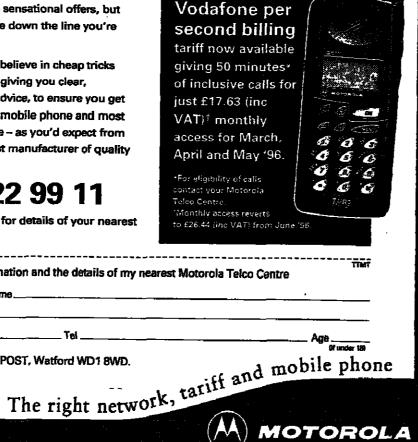
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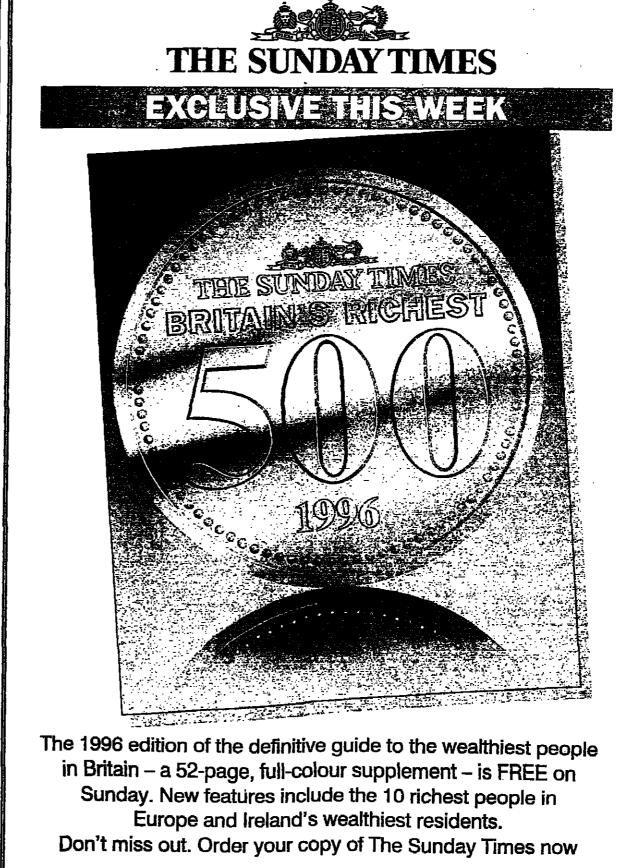
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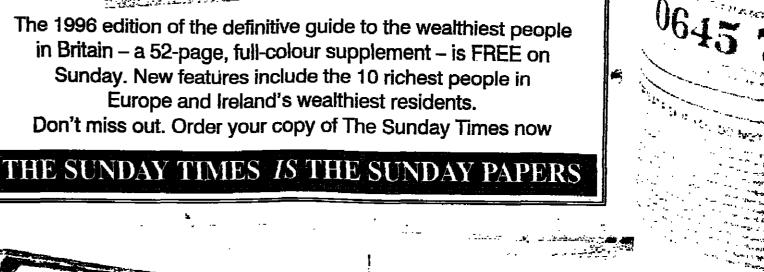
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Juppé drops rights speech as Li signs £1bn trade deals

FRANCE and China signed a letter of intent to develop a 100seat aircraft yesterday despite a diplomatic incident the previous evening in which Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, was apparently forced to withdraw a toast referring to human rights after Li Peng. his Chinese counterpart, ex-

pressed his displeasure at the proposed text. Security measures were tightened yesterday as Mr Li arrived at the Elysée Palace two hours ahead of schedule to sign the agreement between Aerospatiale and AVIC, the Chinese aviation company. The letter of intent came after the two sides signed trade deals worth nearly Fr10 billion (£1.3 billion) on Wednesday. They included a contract for

China 30 A320 passenger jets and three A340 jumbo cargo

Mr Li provoked the diplomatic incident when he arrived an hour and a half late for a meeting with M Juppé before a state banquet to be held in his honour at the Quai d'Orsay on Wednesday. The two men were due to sign the Fr10 billion contract, twothirds of which concerns the purchase of Airbus planes.

M Juppe's refusal to bow to Mr Li's demands that he withdraw the references to human rights in his speech led to proposals that the dinner be cancelled. Eventually both men signed the contract and the dinner went ahead, after M Juppé suggested the traditional after-dinner speeches be dropped altogether.



A smiling President Chirac welcomes Li Peng to the Elysée Palace despite differences on human rights

The text of M Juppé's proposed toast, which laid emphasis on France's commit-

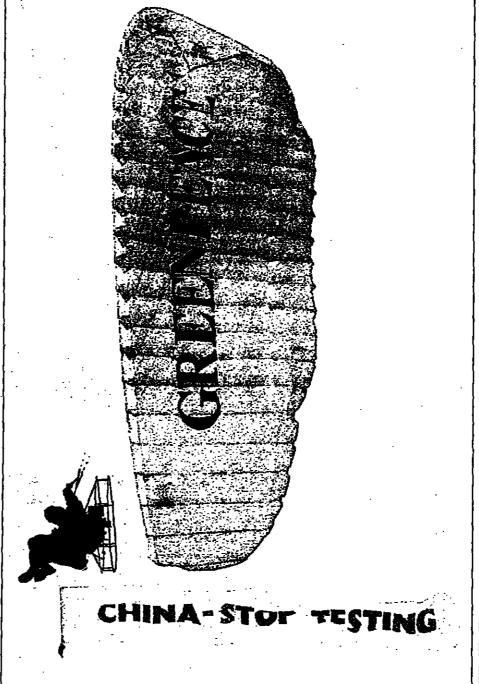
ment to human rights and which had given offence to the Chinese leader, contained the words: "All lasting economic and social development must be accompanied by a parallel progress in democracy and human rights."

During an interview broad-cast on the radio station Europe-I yesterday, a government minister defended M Juppé's actions against Socialist criticism that he had "given in to Chinese pressure to ensure the Airbus contract. The Prime Minister "did not want to give up anything he had to say. He took nothing back. He simply did not deliver his speech, said Dominique Perben, the Minister in charge of the Public Sector.

News footage shown yester-day on French television showed a distinctly frosty M Juppe perfunctorily shaking hands with the Chinese Prime Minister after the signing. The froideur of M Juppe's greeting was in contrast with that of President Chirac, who welcomed his Chinese guest to the Elysée with open arms and a warm smile.

During a 90-minute meeting with the Chinese leader described as positive, M Chirac had reaffirmed France's commitment to human rights issues, an Elysée spokesman said. "The discussion was very open on every

Herve de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, said that he had given a letter to his



A protester in a motorised parachute with a banner "China: stop testing now" Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, expressing Paris's concern about 20 Chinese dissidents. This was denied by

Protests against the Chinese leader's visit went on in Paris. The most spectacular was a demonstration against China's continued nuclear testing by a Greenpeace protester in a

motorised parachute who flew over the Arc de Triomphe trailing a banner reading "China: stop testing now." before being arrested as he landed in a park.

Reluctant Britain faces tough odds in battle of euro

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE prospect that Europe's single market might be blown apart by its single currency will loom over Verona today when European Union ministers meet in the Italian city to thrash out a scheme that could rope the pound together with the future euro.

Although he can count on some help from like-minded Sweden, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is unlikely to win much ground as he makes Britain's lonely case against a currency that is more or less favoured by the 13 other member states.

The finance ministers and central bank governors are supposed to clear the way for a mechanism to ensure that the birth of the euro, planned for January 1999, does not bring with it the risk of a monetary upheaval that could divide the EU penalising Germany, France and the handful of other likely founders of monetary unjon.

The Verona gathering will also tackle a German-backed scheme for enforcing discipline inside monetary union and will look at possible names for the decimal subunits of the euro, as the planned currency was named in December.

Despite Britain's refusal to be corralled into a new version of the exchange-rate mechanism from which it was ejected in 1992, EU officials believe London eventually will deem it worthwhile to join. "It can be done without the British, but it would be in everyone's interest, including their own, to get on board," a Commission

official said yesterday. France is leading a drive, supported by Belgium, to devise penalties that would deter

Britain from staying out of a new currency scheme. The need for a solution to what is known as the problem of the "ins and the outs" has become acute. As the continental economies have staggered, only Luxembourg now meets the "convergence criteria" required for EMU membership.

With Germany struggling to meet the test to be applied to national performance next year, it has become clear that the initial euro club will be small. Germany's Bundesbank is fighting to ensure that politics are not allowed to dilute the criteria. Otmar Issing, chief economist to the bank, cracked the whip this week with a warning against the temptation to brush aside the criteria. He also warned the politicans against the argument that EMU was the solution to unemployment. Fresh doubts also came when Wim Kok, Prime Minister of The Netherlands, said a delay

in EMU might be necessary. Although a few months ago debate focused on protecting the "outs" from the effects of initial banishment from the charmed EMU circle. France. Germany and the handful of other likely "ins" have been growing more worried about the possible disadvantages of membership.

Governments struggling to win public support for a scheme which is widely expected to inflict economic pain are eager to avert the danger that Britain, Italy and other probable big non-members will use their monetary independence to score off the euro bloc through "competitive devaluation" of their currencies.

Leading article, page 17

Karadzic 'poses threat to peace plan'

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

MEDIATORS in charge of implementing the Dayton peace plan in Bosnia-Herzegovina said yesterday that they feared the peace process could collapse unless Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader charged with war crimes, is removed from power.

Under the plan. Dr Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb

military leader, were required to step down. However, they remain in control behind the scenes and are attempting to undermine the process.

Mediators in charge of prisoner exchanges, economic reconstruction, the return of refugees, and elections say every time they win a commitment from Rajko Kasagic, the Bosnian Serb Prime Minister, it is overturned by Dr Karadzic. "What we are seeing is the re-

emergence of a hardline group which is

disquieting to the peace process," said Colum Murphy, spokesman for the Office of the High Representative run by Carl Bildt. "What we have been told is that Dr Karadzic has issued instructions to the Dayton interlocutors to withdraw from the peace process." Mr Bildt's office and the Nato-lead peace implementation force have refused to meet Dr Karadzic or General Mladic, because they have been charged by the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague.

Hell's Angels under fire

Helsingborg, Sweden: At least two anti-tank grenades were fired on the Swedish headquarters of the Hell's Angels biker gang near here yesterday, police said.

Firefighters quickly extinguished flames which spread after the attack on the building, which was targeted by bazooka fire last year. (AFP)

Andreotti 'did not order killing' FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN PERUGIA

THE murder trial of Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian Prime Minister, began in a fortified courtroom near Perugia yesterday.

Signor Andreotti, 77, is accused of ordering the killing of Mino Pecorelli, the editor of a magazine with close links to the secret services, to prevent

him publishing damaging in-formation about the Christian Democrat leader.

Also in court were Pippo Calo, a Rome Mafia boss, and Claudio Vitalone, a former Foreign Trade Minister. They are accused of helping to organise the killing on Signor

Andreotti's behalf. Michelangelo La Barbera. an alleged member of the Mafia, and Massimo Carminati, a suspected right-wing terrorist, are in prison accused of shooting Pecorelli outside his office in Rome on March 20, 1979.

"We will show that Senator Andreotti was not among those who may have ordered this killing," Franco Coppi, the former Prime Minister's lawyer, told the court.

The trial is expected to last at least two years.

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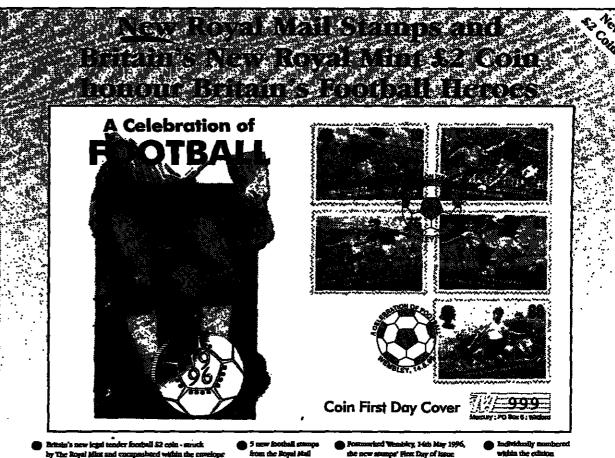
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Michael Binyon takes a wry father's view of all-night jam sessions and sweaty pub gigs



The Replicant Saints go marching in - and, they hope, up - with, clockwise from left, Struan Robertson, Tom Rogerson, Martin Binyon, Tom Dunn, Eva Rice and William Prideaux

My son, the rock star

f course if he had wanted to play in an orchestra, I would have been intrusively ambitious. You must practise. You must sit the exams. Don't waste your time at parties. Listen to this player, that recording, come to this concert and I'll get tickets.

I could see the legend beginning: the seven-year-old in Russia taking piano lessons with Natusha, the encouraging school reports from Mr Johns, the teenager trumpeting Bach on the school chapel organ, evenings of Beethoven and Mozart on the Yamaha... My son, the pianist, I would perhaps boast one day. But no. Reality usually dawns

on most parents, and when the house shook all day with the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Muddy Waters, I knew that the classical world had been vanquished by the more raucous tastes of a different generation. So it was to be pop instead. Drums all over the house. A keyboard on the dining-room table. Practice with the band; the first gig in a pub: all-night jamming sessions with Tom on the guitar trying out new rhythms, new

pop star? Impossible.
Well, not quite impossible it seems. The Replicant Saints have begun to go marching in — all six of them. They filled

lyrics. The first vital demon-

stration tape. But my son, the

the function room at the Dog and Fox more than a year ago — mostly with friends, girlfriends and supporters, of course, but with dry ice and some strobe lighting they put on a lively show. Things have got a bit more professional since then. The amplifiers have got bigger, the keyboard more sophisticated, the lyrics

more subtle and wistful.

At Christmas they played at the Half Moon in Putney — a vital first rung up the pop ladder. Martin insisted. We sneaked in for half an hour, and an uncertain pride vied in me with nostalgia — didn't I remember the raw energy, the fug. the showiness and the beery cheers in the hallowed

Sixties? Even Martin's greataunt, 85, was impressed. "They make a terrible noise. And I really don't think the girl knows how to move at all." It was a compliment bound to assure success.

Eva, the back-up singer,

does know how to move, of course. Better still, with the surname Rice and a father who has written enough lyries to make all Argentina cry, she knows how to move the diarists and columnists. Her picture and the Replicant Saints made a national newspaper. A Bristol radio station followed. A Sunday tabloid promised a profile. And they all found an irresistible theme: not only is it a case of like father, like

daughter, but the men around her with wild hair and zany clothes are all Etonians. A toffs' band! Now, there's an item for the pop press. All that money spent on posh education, and today's OEs are going out to govern not the colonies but the other field

where Britain now reigns su-

preme. A whole new meaning, perhaps, to the Playing Fields of Eton. We parents are less convinced. "You still have to pass the exams," I

found myself saying, censoriously. Have you done any work yet on the Victorians? What can you tell me pop group

drums: all quite natural in

realisation that I ought to take

a vague, parental interest in the field. I know about plec-

trums, I can distinguish some

elements of Britpop, I am used

to James Brown and the JBs

and like blues in limited doses.

I have discussed

touch-sensitive

keyboards and syn-

thesizers with other

colleagues also

being pressed for a

generous parental

loan. Beyond that,

it is hopeless. But all commu-

nication is not lost:

Martin also cher-

ishes a passion for

gently, to educate

an illiterate father.

"Do you want to go to La traviata? Shall I try for tick-

ets?" It's code, of course, and

means: I want to get to this

performance, but I need you to

buy the tickets. I usually fall

for it. And I shall sneak into

the Half Moon on Tuesday

when the Replicant Saints are

back, by special request. Up

there, slick in black, will be

My Son the Pop Star.

There comes the dreadful

Norway.

am? You haven't even read any Tennyson yet." But for a 21-year-old the question whether Gallipoli failed because of poor execution or was a flawed idea from the start seems less urgent than how to design a striking cover for the demo tape or how much improvisation should take over from the basic rhythm.

about In Memori-

And then what about jobs? When the Saints, scattered now across the universities of the country, get together for practice there is talk of a proper tour: expenses-only appearances at anniversary bashes and college functions rising through pubs, clubs and a nice little earner at an Oxford ball to bigger halls and more ambitious venues.

erhaps I should be dreaming of the bonanza. the moment when the star will buy his little old parents a cottage in Cornwall. Dream on. "Haven't you been down to the careers centre yet?" I nag. "Haven't you any idea what you want to do?"

One promising post-Saints career would be a politician. It seems that every Tory minister nowadays spent his youth in a pop band, and some, such as John Redwood, seem to be reverting to happier, wetter days: the outspoken backbencher now confesses to liking Britpop and is fishing for the student vote. And wasn't Tony Blair in a student rock group? Down Under, Paul Keating managed a band before taking up politics. And in Norway at least the addiction carries on: the Finance Minister plays a guitar in a group. and several of his Cabinet colleagues shed their suits at weekends and make their statements with guitars and

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Ambition that flies sky high

Norris McWhirter on the deadly urge to break records

n the United States a studden large crowd is often compared to a posse of lawyers around a lift accident. Yesterday's tragic light aircraft crash in the business area of Cheyenne. Wyoming, by a seven-year-old pilot, Jessica Dubroff, seems likely to create both legal precedents and new laws.

Taking off in a rainstorm on Wednesday from Half Moon Bay, California, the Cessna 177B four-search ad aboard the 4ft Zin tall Jessica, her father Lloyd Dubroff and a flight instructor. Jessica was fitted with leg extensions to enable her to reach the foot controls. Before take-off she pronounced: "I am going to break the record." Her father confined himself to the comment: "I would be more worried about her horseback riding."

Knowing the vicarious pleasure that parents and grandparents derive from the precocity of their progeny, successive editors of the Guinness Book of Records have long had a policy of censoring the publication of records of, for instance, the youngest swimmer or the youngest marathon numer.

There can be lew sights more cruel than loving parents working on their reflected glory image. One of the most harrowing cases was the postwar one of an Australian father. determined that his four-month-old daughter should become the world's youngest unaccompanied swimmer.

The record to which the late Jessica Dubroff was prohably referring was so heavily publicised on the front pages of American newspapers that it appears in order to recite it. On February 24, 1983, the freckled Cody A. Locke flew a Cessna 150 solo near Mexiculi airfield, Mexico, aged nine years 316 days.

In Britain the extremes are less extreme. The RAF, during the Second World War, accepted a certain Thomas Dobney for flying

aged nine years 316 days.

In Britain the extremes are less extreme. The RAF, during the Second World War, accepted a certain Thomas Dobney for flying training. It was only when he was sporting his "wings" and the three stripes of a sergeant that he admitted that he had overstated his age and was in fact only 15 years 5 months old. However, he was not even the British record

holder because, in Decem-

ber 1942, an aircraft-crazy boy named James Studeley, aged 14 years 5 months, not only took off on a maiden joyride in an unattended Piper Cub trainer aircraft, but landed it in one piece. He then opened the door to help out his younger brother, a 13-year-old passenger. The local constabulary at Ludgershall, Wiltshire, were nonplussed as to what precise offence had been committed.

From a passenger's point of view the oldest pilot might seem almost as dangerous as the youngest. In 1979 Ed McCarty of Kinberley, Idaho, was still keeping his 30-year-old



Fatal flight Jessica

Ercoupe in the air by dint of virtually rebuilding it, until he was 94.

until he was 94.

The legendary Air Commodore Harold "Daddy" Probyn, CBE, DSO, who had flown in the First World War in the Royal Flying Corps, was still flying in Kenya 67 years later, aged 92. More recently in 1993, Stanley Wood (1896-1994) of Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, was still taking the controls of a Piper Cherokee Warrior in a flying career which spanned 80 per cent of the history of aviation, which began in 1903, when the Wright brothers first flew in their stiff collars, ties and dark business suits at Kill Devil Hill, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

One can only suspect that Sir Christopher Chataway, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, had not got to hear of Stanley Wood, Sir Christopher records in Who's Who that he himself "briefly held the world 5,000-metre record" and clearly understands the human passion for breaking records.

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No peace for the Nazi hunter



Simon Wiesemhal: letters still pour in to his office at the rate of 50 a day, many containing donations

tell you an old Jewish joke," Simon Wiesenthal says. "Why is it that grandparents like grandchildren, and grandchildren like grandparents? You know why? Because they have a common enemy!"

The most surprising thing about meeting Simon Wiesenthal is his fondness for jokes. "Humour is very important to Jews. But in the concentration camp" -- where he produced vivid cartoons and caricatures — "there were no jokes."

The "Nazi hunter" is now 87 years old. His admirers are legion. But so are his detractors, notably among Jews. He is obstinate, cussed, tunnel-visioned. Hella Pick's new biography, Simon Wiesenthal: A Life In Search of Justice, is scrupulously objective in giving his critics' views, and candid about about Wiesenthal's egocen-tricity and his relish - though denied the Nobel Peace Prize - for fame and honours.

He is a large physical presence with long gnomic ears, and expres-sive eyes that often seem on the verge of tears of sentiment or passion - until he laughs.

I am in Vienna to see him because he is not well enough to come to London - "yesterday I was the whole day in pyjamas" - yet his vigour matches his unimpaired zeal. His office, on the site of former Gestapo headquarters, is simply marked "Documentation Centre". On the second floor is a long, sunny library lined with box files. Several are marked "Neo-Nazis". Rows of files contain letters. Memories and inquiries pour in at the rate of 50 a day. Wiesenthal opens them meticulously and finds that many contain small donations, enabling him to carry on his solitary, messianic mission to ensure that no Nazi murderer, however old, will be allowed to die in peace. This remains his aim, "even as my life draws to its biological end".

Six years ago, the equalty venerable Lord Shawcross (now 94), the chief prosecutor at Nuremberg, told me why he opposed the War Crimes Bill. Trying aged Nazis would merely fan the flames of anti-Semitism. The hangings at Nuremberg had not deterred subsequent murderous regimes. And he had always said that after Nuremberg, a line had to be drawn; otherwise the trials might continue "to the crack of doom".

I started to offer Wiesenthal Lord Shawcross's objections, but he stopped me with a caveat about using the euphemism "war criminals". "The crimes of the Nazis start six years before the war, and the majority of the crimes have nothing to do with the war."

Wiesenthal came home from Nuremberg despondent. "My wife

At 87 Simon Wiesenthal is still passionately committed to his stubborn, solitary mission to seek out and destroy Nazi war criminals

THE

VALERIE

GROVE

INTERVIEW

don't eat, you don't sleep, you wish not to talk to anybody'. I say: 'The Nazis lost the war. But we have lost the post-war.' The difficulty after 1945 was that the Cold War diverted attention to a new monster, Uncle Joe Stalin. Protecting Europe became the priority. The only winners of the Cold War were the Nazis and the Nazi criminals."

The story of Wiesenthal's wartime survival is miraculous. He was beaten, rounded up to be killed twice; escaped, was recaptured to do forced labour. Once he survived because they needed an artist to paint a sign for Hitler's birthday.

Twice he tried to commit suicide: he shows the scars on each wrist. In 1944 at Plaszow -the camp of Schindler's List he marched 20 miles and collapsed in the snow, a frozen skeleton, left for dead. He assumed who, with her blonde hair and Aryan looks, had

managed to dis-

guise her identity

in Germany was dead. The story of how they found each other again is the stuff of fiction. "September 9 this year, I hope we will be alive, is our sixtieth wedding anniversary."

Wiesenthal was born in a shtetl in Buczacz in Galicia. But as a Jew, wanting to study architecture, young Szymon had to go to Prague. In the 1930s in Lvov, he edited a student magazine featuring his caricatures of Hitler.

is mother, Rosa, was taken from the ghetto in Lvov to a concentration camp in 1942, and never seen again. "Look, that was nothing special, hundreds of survivors had such backgrounds. Half the population of Lvov - 149.000 were Jews: less than 500 survived. I feel guilty that I survived, while people more intelligent than I, that can give society more than I, did not. I recognise that I should be the mouth of them, they are forever silent." In 1947 he set up his documentation centre.

The most interesting document here is Wiesenthal's own list. In February 1945, he told his Ameri-

SHORT BREAK

he could not simply return to his old life as an architect: he was determined to bring the guilty men to justice. Impressed by his passion, they gave him a pen, ink and paper. After five days I had written 91 names, and what I knew about what these people had done." The list - written in Polish and dated May 25, 1945 - is extraordi-

It includes Amon Goeth, for instance, the Plaszow camp commander (played by Ralph Fiennes in Schindler's List), "the greatest killer of all. Victims run into thousands. Master of cruelties.

> Others are defined as "maltreating the prisoners" "Speciality killing women and children." turing people ... Sadist from Cra-

He had no copy of this list until 40 years later, when the screenwriter Abbie Mann. who as a US officer had met Wiesenthal at Maunthausen, writing a television film of his

life. (Ben Kingsley, who shares his birthday, December 31, played Wiesenthal.) Mann had found Wiesenthal's list in the National Archives, and gave him a copy.

How had he managed to store so many names, including previous professions, in his mind "like in a computer? Wiesenthal asked a fellow survivor from the camp, now a doctor in Long Island. He recalled that Wiesenthal would quiz fellow inmates for names: "And we think you are crazy. In 50 minutes you might be the victim." His memory, even today, is prodígious.

He has scored many victories -Eichmann, Stangl — and many frustrations: Bormann, Mengele, the acquittal of Murer in Vienna. "I am against the death sentence." he says. "A death sentence is only a half-minute." What is extraordinary is his

fearless tenacity, even when vilified by the World Jewish Council. "When I arrested my first Nazis, these people were not even a gleam in their father's eye. About Waldheim, I proposed an international commission of military historians. asks me: 'What is with you? You can liberators at Mauthausen that and their conclusion was the same tographers?" A: "You see?"

as mine. There was no evidence against him of personal involvement. So the WJC lose the case against Waldheim, and blame me. These are very bad losers. They believe they can kill my image with one television programme.

"Yes, Waldheim was in a Nazi student group, but this is nothing. They make from the dwarf an elephant! He was a well-informed officer, but had no possibility to make military orders. He was stupid in my opinion, and he lied. Why did he not say immediately: 'I saw everything. I know everything. but what could I do. as a second lieutenant?" Lord Weidenfeld, publisher of the Hella Pick biography and native of Vienna, concurs: when Weidenfeld was a student, and his father a prisoner, young Waldheim would smuggle lecture notes to him.

This month Wiesenthal goes to receive another honorary degree from Israel, where he will see his only daughter Paulinka, born in 1946.

"My daughter is religious, my grandchildren also. For me and my wife, after what happened to us, only the ethical part of religion remains. I am happy that I am a Jew, but after four years in camps. we have only questions to the Lord, and no answers. We are asking why? Why did this happen? From time to time I go to the synagogue as a matter of solidarity - but not

He finds the under-30s more receptive to Holocaust memories than his generation, or mine. "Grandparents keep silent: the matter is taboo. Their fathers, the 50-year-olds, say: 'The Allies commit crimes too.' But the young ask questions, they travel, they are open: they want to know.

"I know my age, and I know that our office is the last office in the world. The fact that we can bring for trial people aged over 80 is a warning for the murderers of tomorrow. Everything in history is a repetition."

Later I walked past the house where W.H. Auden died in 1973, en route for Sacher's (the café Wiesenthal recommended) where Graham Greene wrote his outline for The Third Man. In Vienna, the past is everywhere — a muddy past, replete with complicity with Nazis. Too late, I remembered a joke Wiesenthal might enjoy, told me by the late Sam White, the great Paris correspondent.

It runs like this. A: "I can prove that you are anti-Semitic. What would you say if I told you that all Jews and all photographers were to be exterminated?" B: "Why would anyone want to exterminate pho-

Why Diana loses to Robert Redford

hy is it," a govern-ment minister asked me the other day, "that nobody ever mentions Michael Heseltine's dandruff?" When you get up close, this problem is of snowstorm proportions, doubtless it gets brushed away by the make-up girl when he appears on television, so people don't normally notice. But the journalists who have spotted it would not dream of pointing

it out. Nor would I, normally. Dandruff is just a fact of life, like nostril hairs or bushy eyebrows or middle-aged spread or cellulite. Yet that last fact of life has taken up more tabloid newspaper column inches in the past week

Mary Ann Sieghart looks forward to the day when women are allowed to look their age

than mad cows, the single currency and yesterday's byelection put together. The Princess of Wales's thighs are they or are they not dimply? -- have produced a story that, in newspaper par-lance, "has legs". It has run

and run. More newsworthy would be to find the 34-year-old woman who does not have cellulite. She must exist, I suppose, somewhere in this country, but I have yet to meet her. And I have seen enough

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naked women in health club changing rooms to have a fair idea of the average fit female body. Cellulite is simply one of those things that happens to female bodies long before middle age. And there is precious little that one can do to make it go away.

But what this fascination illustrates is the different way in which we treat women's and men's appearance. Women are expected to look perfect; men merely tolerable. Men's looks are commented upon only when they are conspicuously shabby: in politics, one might cite Michael Foot or Kenneth Clarke. And all prominent men - even the most handsome - are allowed to look scruffy off

Compare that with the treatment of Emma Thompson or Demi Moore or Helen Mirren, or indeed any famous woman who is caught looking normal rather than drop-dead glamorous. Ms Thompson is not allowed to leave her house in a track-suit sans make-up without being pilloried by the oress. Imagine the tyranny of having to cake your face in foundation, do your hair, and slip into something slinky before you dare walk to the corner shop to buy your Sunday paper.

s. Moore is caught looking a little flablooking a little liab by on the beach. What any fashion photographer (and any woman) knows is that, in some positions, your body looks fatter than in others. For instance, if you are sitting up, relaxed, in a bikini. without holding your stomach in, you will look as if you have rolls around your midriff however thin you are. That is why fashion shoots don't have models in that position. And while it is possible to hold your breath and suck in your tummy when a photographer is snapping you for a glossy magazine, it is not something you want to do for every waking moment lest a paparazzo should, by chance, catch you unawares.



Heseltine has a problem

Helen Mirren is an extremely talented 50-year-old actress, after whom some men still lust. Yes, women of 50 can still be sexy. She wore a seethrough black shirt with a bra underneath for a premiere: fashionable at the time. The Daily Mail cruelly awarded her a "Mutton Dressed as Lamb" award. True, she did not look 16. But then she isn't

That is the trouble. The ideal against which women's looks are measured is that of the teenagers in the glossy magazines. Yet in fashion

photographs, the blemishes are airbrushed away, the legs the day when women are can be lengthened using a allowed to look like women, not like Barbie dolls. Flaws computer, the clothes are draped just so, and subjected are what make people interesting. We love Robert to no movement that might Redford, warts and all. Why make them ride up or wrinkle. And the models who wear not Diana? them are both ridiculously young and preternaturally shaped. This is not real life. If these girls had either cellulite or the figure of a normally slim woman, they would be

I don't have much sympathy for the Princess of Wales herself. It is both silly and undignified to face the press pack in a pair of tiny Lycra shorts. She lives by her body, and wants to show off her legs. So she lays herself open to criticism. But what I find odd is that anyone could believe she didn't have cellulite like any other woman of her age. Only if you expected her to look like an airbrushed 16-year-old would you find such an imperfection surprising and therefore wor-

thy of comment The only good thing to have come out of this is that women readers, far from being critical, will feel reassured that even princesses are subject to the normal processes of age-



Opera for the masses? Times critic Rodney Milnes and opera impresario Raymond Gubbay engage in furious debate about the future of the art form

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GE HAD

Philip Howard



High seriousness is still the hallmark of classics but it's fun, too

ottingham. When that Aprile with his showers sweet, the drought of March hath pierced to the root, then people long to go on conference. The Classical Association begins its annual meeting here today. About 300 professional, amateur and aspirant classicists are coming back to bedsits, and lectures exploring such topics as violent women and the virtue of single combat, father of the European duel. And The Times is here to cover it. Why? St Jerome's anti-feminism and Aristotle's notions about dreams may be fascinating for the curious. But they do not sound promising material for the front-page "splash" or even the quirky "basement" article of a modern newspaper. Where is the beef in Boethius? What is the relevance of Ancient Rome?

Well, the sentimental answer is that from the beginning The Times has always covered the Classical Association, familiarly known as the Class Ass. It was even launched by a as the Class Ass. It was even faunched by a letter to the Editor from Professor J.P. Postgate of Cambridge. Its first meeting was presided over by the Master of the Rolls and attended by the Vice-Chancellors of Oxford and Cambridge and the great and grave from universities, schools, Church and Parliament. Its first meeting was allocated two full columns in our newspaper, which then had only eight columns for news. And much of that was given over to high-minded

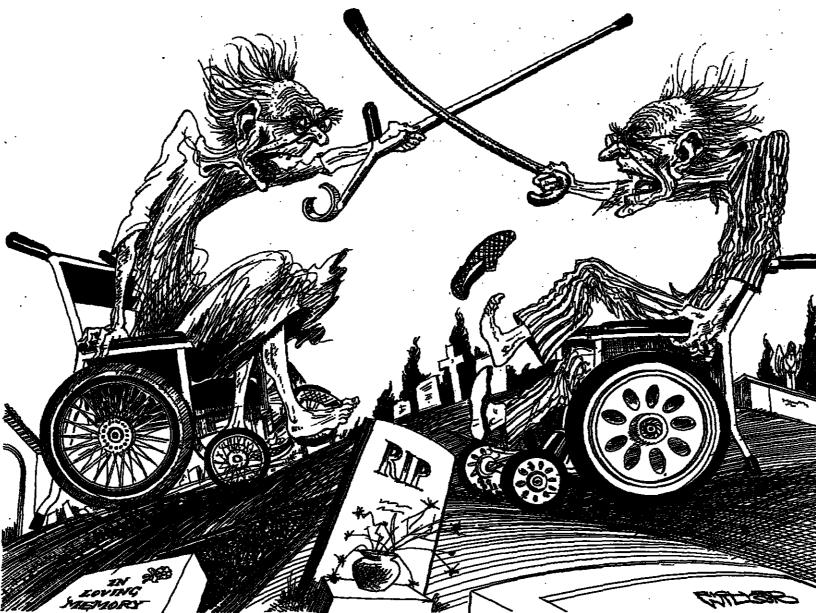
worry about the "decline" of the classics. Professor Postgate said that there was a tawdriness, a feverishness, a frivolity about modern literature of which they would look in vain for parallels in the literature of Greece and Rome. "Think of Plato and Rudyard Kipling!" (laughter)." Kipling was the Martin Amis of the day, but that first audience would not have laughed so loud if they could have read Kipling's brilliant translations of Horace. Professor Postgate was scornful about literature in translation, calling it "tinned salmon". What would he say today, when most of the classics in schools is done in translation, and few, even at universities, compose prose and verse?

But he would be wrong to beat his breast and raise the old ululation that classics are dead. Each generation rediscovers the classics for its own preoccupations, and finds new relevance in them. In 1903, at the high tide of Empire, the classics were the training for the modern proconsuls, praetors and prefects. An apt quotation from Horace was as important to a political soundbite as a reference to a soap opera or a pop singer is today. The papers to the Class Ass a century ago were ripe with lessons from imperial history, and jots and tittles.

The archbishops and prime ministers at that first meeting would have been astonished at how our notion of the classics has expanded. This week we shall range from o-archaeology to the more d Byzantine emperors. There will be 100 lecturers instead of half a dozen. And instead of grave professors, many of them will be young postgraduates and teachers chalking up merits for their CVs. Their topics include many that Professor Postgate would have deemed frivolous, such as women, slaves, the enemy within and other underdogs of the ancient world.

Professor Postgate's eyes would pop at our panel on literary psychoanalysis and some of the "back to basics" deconstruction and reductionism that will go on here this week. He would be gratified by the sessions on such hardy permillennials as Greek tragedy and Roman history. He would be delighted that Professor Jonathan Powell of Newcastle University (the star of our generation) is running a Latin prose seminar for anybody who still enjoys writing stylish Latin as a challenge and a pleasure.

And he would be relieved to find that, a century on, the classics are alive and strutting their stuff in Nottingham. They are still relevant because they are the foundations of our civilisation, literature and culture. The old things still make news because they are eternally new, and more interesting than the daily ephemera. And they are fun. And that is why The Times still covers the Class Ass. How could it not?



Deliver us from hatred

his a story about hatred, but it is a very sad kind of hatred, the very worst kind. And what would be the worst kind of hatred? Well, I call it the worst because it should be the most powerful kind of happiness and love, but is, in fact, the opposite. Indeed, it is doubly sad, for I am speaking about two men who should be showing others how to love, because they are from the same family. And yet the haters in this sad story are not just two men who hate each other, they are two brothers who hate each other.

Before I start. I must do some difficult thinking myself, for I have to ask myself if I hate anyone — anyone at all. And I also have to look back on anger to see if I have borne hatred in the past. An answer to such questions cannot be quickly and simply found, presumably because the thing we are examining is so difficult to define.

It seems that hatred is a very powerful word, not to be used lightly or without careful thought, even by the truly wronged. After all, the Prayer Book asks delivery from "... hypocrisy, envy, hatred and malice...", and I think that the Prayer Book felt hatred more powerfully than the other sins. True, the child demanding but not getting another chocolate will stamp his foot and tell his mother he hates her, but we smile at that kind of hate because it is unreal and momentary. After all, if mother thought her offspring really hated her, there would be thoughts in the nursery so terrible that the world would spin round and crumble. No, we are not talking about real hatred there.

Try to examine the real kind. Try to cross the bridge from nursery to reality. Try to understand what real hatred comprises. Try to call up the past, even a savage past, mired in anger, but one in which you now think you cannot find the hatred that you once felt. Almost all of us will find, to our great astonishment certainly to mine - that it is almost impossible to draw up a substantial list of those whom you truly hate. You dislike X, you dislike him very much perhaps he bores you, perhaps he sneers at you, perhaps he says horrible things about one you love. Nevertheless, what you feel is disdain, anger, disgust, mendacity, cowardice, meanness, stupidity - put them all together, and even now we are not feeling true hatred.

It seems that hatred is almost negligi-

Where brotherly love and collegiality have been poisoned, animosity may be implacable this side of the grave

ble. If so, three cheers for the human race; however much it dislikes its neighbours, it doesn't hate them. But I did not say that hatred doesn't exist; I said it was very rare indeed. You see, the human race is a very fine thing, but it is not entirely perfect. And to prove it, I bring forward the brothers Maurice and Hyman Berger, respectively aged 75 and Sl. and who hate each other so profoundly, so remorselessly, so crazily, that Maurice very recently took a carjack handle and repeatedly hit Hyman. causing injuries to his face and his arms, after which Maurice smashed the windscreen and window of his car.

In my time i have said much about judges, most of it decase I would have liked to leap into the middle of the courtroom and shake the judge by the hand. And why? Because, when he finished judging the case of the two brothers, he said to the pitiful

pair that "Heaven knows, we have a short enough time on this earth - you and your brother rather less than most ... I shall be rather more impressed if that remorse is demonstrated by a real effort to make your peace with your brother for the few remaining years allotted to you."

Now then. Hatred is surely one of the most terrible stopping-points in man's trudge from birth to death. But when the haters come from the same body, a mere six years apart, we must stop and think very hard. It is odd enough to have siblings who do not like each other. but hatred? Hatred? Hatred so powerful that it comes to blows, and blows that amounted to (I quote the judge) "a vicious and potentially lethal assault"? And, for that matter, "Over several months, more than 400 early-hours calls were recorded until Hyman began High Court proceedings that put Maurice at risk of jail if he persisted." And even, "Annette [Hyman's wife] received an elaborately-wrapped, perfumed parcel addressed in Maurice's handwriting. At first she thought it might be a peace offering, but when she opened it she found it contained what seemed to be human excrement."

That is real hatred, and hatred within the family, perhaps the worst kind. But the very worst kind is what followed the end of the court case; it was easy to miss altogether. It was only ten words, saying "the brothers left court without a word to

I shall return to the brothers, but I must pause to inspect the two doctors (and surely doctors

should give a good impression) years, but then fell out. And oh, what a fall was there". Each hated the other, hated so much that no fewer than six times the police had to be called,

and once the surgery staff had to lock themselves in the waiting room for safety, so violent was the fighting between these two healers. And worse still; the Health Services Authority became alarmed about the effect on the health of the patients. Inevitably, there was a tribunal, costing some £100,000, with 37 witnesses and 860 documents. And that was because two doctors had fallen out, after many years of, it

seemed, perfect harmony. But now, within the doctors' surgery, there raged true hatred; it was the exact parallel of the rage within the family. One of the two healers accused the other of alcohol dependency and drug abuse, adding that he turned up to work in a dishevelled state and was incoherent and unintelligible, plus smashing the other's computer. The first healer accused the other of rifling his patients' files and spitting at him, and each of them claimed that the other tried to steal the other's patients. And just as the two

brothers "left the court without a word to each other" so "both men were unrepen-tant and determined to stay".

What lesson does the story of the crazy brothers and the no less crazy doctors teach? Many. perhaps most, would say that the world is a random shuffling of the cards, and the shuffler can have no hope of finding any sense anywhere in the universe. It is tempting to take that view, but I do not. I believe that the lesson, when rightly studied, will take the opposite conclusion. We have seen two pairs of haters; and only two. Why do you suppose that the pitiful brothers and the pinful doctors found themselves in the headlines? Surely, the answer is because such tragic absurdities are so rare. And I come back to the extraordinary thought that in civilised countries there is true hatred, but it is almost incredibly rare. Why?

I can give only one answer: it is that human beings who, seeing the world around them, weigh up - not consciously. of course - the pros and cons of life and what we make of it. Why, when we read about the brothers who hate each other, and the doctors who similarly cannot live in harmony even in a place made entirely for healing, we are puzzled, and sometimes much more than puzzled. Look back for a moment at what I said when I began: that hatred is astonishingly rare.

t is, but just look about you; there is fighting, there is cheating, there is stealing, there is stabbing, there is murder itself, and yet hatred remains infrequent. There is another clue, and a powerful one; take the madmen who hate their brothers, and take the other madmen who, examining patients, are still raging in hatred against their partners. What do we see first about these two haters? It is not the raging or the name-calling, it is only the stupidity and the silliness, so we are free to despise such people, rightly, as fools.

Can folly alone push out hatred? I am not sure. Can hatred push out folly? Alas, yes. That wise judge urged wisely. But I fear that his words have fallen on barren ground, and it will be too late to realise that the judge was right. And those doctors, too, will go to their graves without understanding why. And all they needed to understand was to look about and see so few consumed with

Elegy for an African Utopia

Richard West on Liberia, end of an American dream

the collapse of Liberia brings to an end the old dream of generations of Africans exiled by slavery in America, of going back to live in the country of their ancestors. The "Back to Africa movement, as it was called in the 1920s, had come into being a century earlier, when a group of free black Americans first settled in Liberia.

The American Colonization Society

was founded by northern Evangelical Christians and Southern politicians, who wanted, for different reasons, to help free, indigent blacks to start a new life in Africa. The idea had come from the British settlement in nearby Sierra-Leone, founded in 1787 with some of the 30,000 blacks then living in England. The first colonists in Liberia met

furious resistance from the natives; moreover the death toll from tropical fevers proved that this was not simply the white man's grave. However, by 1847, Liberia was robust enough to declare itself an independent republic under President Joseph Jenkins Roberts, a light-skinned "man of colour" as he called himself.

The United States would not recognise Liberia until 1862, largely because it did not want a black ambassador in Washington. But already in 1848 President Roberts was received in London by Queen Victoria, who presented Liberia with a transport ship and a four-gun

In the debate over slavery in the United States before the Civil War, the abolitionists denounced the American Colonization Society, accusing the settlers in Liberia of slaughtering mative Africans. The leading anti-slavery pro-pagandist. William Lloyd Garrison. said that the few thousand settlers sent to Liberia could not relieve the plight of the two million slaves and half a million free blacks in the United States.

Nevertheless, Liberia in the mid-19th century flourished from cotton, sugar and the first palm kernels shipped to Europe. The native coffee, the famous Liberica, was sent to New York and Liverpool on ships flying the Lone Star flag, actually owned by Liberians, as few are today. Even the African explorer. Sir Richard Burton, who was a negrophobe. compared Liberia favourably with Britain's Sierra Leone.

n the 1860s a pure black Liberian. Benjamin Anderson, made a journey to the interior, getting on famously with the Mandingo people. and afterwards writing a much better book than Burton's. Edward Wilmot Blyden, a Liberian scholar, wrote what are now classic works on the syllabuses of black Studies departments everywhere. Blyden, who was a friend of Gladstone, was twice his country's ambassador to London.

Liberia suffered from the 1870s onwards, when the European powers ioined in the "scramble for Africa". annexing its hinterland and undercutting its exports. Brazil started to grow Liberian coffee. Some Liberians, including Blyden, believed that Liberia should exchange independence for British protection and financial support.

Liberia was saved from bankruptcy after the First World War by the American Firestone Rubber Company. In the early 1920s, the United States consumed 80 per cent of the world's rubber, mostly in car tyres, but grew less than I per cent under its own flag. By an agreement in 1926. Firestone was given Liberia's existing rubber plantations, as well as a 99-year lease on a million acres of forest, the right of harbour construction and effective control of the revenue. The Europeans, especially the British. hotly resented this US intrusion, and during the 1930s tried to prove that Liberia was engaged in the slave trade, selling labour to Spanish colonies. In fact the abuse of forced labour was no worse than in several British colonies. The novelist Graham Greene, in his travel book Journey Without Maps in 1936, compared Liberia favourably with

uring the 1920s, Marcus Garvey. a.Jamaica-born journalist and orator, started a Back to Africa movement in the United States, exhorting blacks to take pride in their colour, and also denouncing mulattos and Jews. At a huge convention in Harlem in 1920, attended by uniformed ranks of the African Legion, the Universal Cross Nurses and the black Eagle Flying Corps, Garvey promised: "We shall now organise the four hundred million negroes of the world into a vast organisation to plant the banner of freedom in the great continent of

Garvey proposed in 1924 that the first 30,000 emigres from the United States should sail to Liberia on ships of his own Black Star line. However the Back to Africa movement collapsed when the Liberian Government refused to accept these immigrants. But the idea lived on into the 1960s, when black Americans opened the best ice-cream parlour in Monrovia, the capital of Liberia.

Under the rule of the genial, corrupt President W.V.S. Tubman, one of the oligarchy of American-Liberians, the country survived into the 1970s without the war and terror that had engulfed most of independent Africa. The end came in 1980, with the first of many military revolts, when Tubman's successor and most of the American-Liberian elite were tied to stakes on the beach and machinegunned.

Richard West is the author of Back to Africa, a History of Sierra Leone and

Ooh ah, scholar

ERIC CANTONA has leapt from the football field into the groves of academe. The footballing philosopher is to be the subject of a doctoral thesis.

A Frenchman affiliated to the sociology department at Leicester University has been given permission to do a PhD in "Cantona studies". Claude Boli, brother of the former French international Basile Boli, is using Cantona as an example to analyse the differences between French and English



Thinking man: Eric Cantona

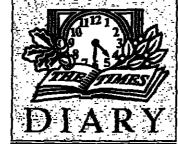
"Eric has said he will help me with my research," says Boli. "I have known him since we were teenagers." Boli is living in Manchester while he interviews Cantona, who has invited him to all United's home games. Cantona fancies himself as

something of a man of letters. His most famous, if somewhat baffling, utterance came at a press conference after his arrest for kickboxing with a Crystal Palace supporter: "When the seagulis are following the trawler it is because they think the sardines will be thrown into the sea." Nobody understood what he was on about, but he has at least found a soulmate in Boli: the two are having trumpet lessons together.

Bushed

AS CONSERVATIVES continue to squirm at the sight of Tony Blair schmoozing with President Clinton, they rue the day they decided to help George Bush in 1992. Back then. Mark Fulbrook was the strategist at Conservative Central Office assigned the job of muckraking on candidate Bill Clinton for the Republicans. Clinton has

never forgiven John Major. While the Tories have suffered

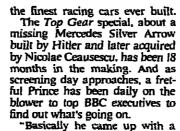


ical consultant, has thrived. He has helped several young Tory thrusters to find safe seats as well as helping Norman Lamont, whose long search for a seat had taken on biblical proportions. This summer, however, Clinton should watch his back again. Fulbrook, a former adviser to Speaker Newt Gingrich, will be renewing his American connection by helping the Republicans with their convention.

Screen first

WITH THE gushing publicity surrounding Prince Edward's forthcoming programme about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, one could be forgiven for thinking that his television career has finally gone up a gear.

He may soon be forced to make an abrupt pit-stop, however. Lawyers are theatening to pull another of his documentaries, due to be since 1992, Fulbrook, now a polit- shown on April 22, about one of



much harder story than he was expecting and I don't think he knows quite what they are going to do with it," says one source. The BBC admits to trouble: "There have been considerable problems with this project. It has been put back and put back."

■ There's no sign of the Duke of Edinburgh easing up on public



"I made a bomb this week"

duties just because Sunday April 21 happens to be his wife's 70th birthday. Rose-tinted monarchists hoping that the Sovereign will enjoy a quiet birthday lunch with Prince Philip are to be disappointed. The old boy plans to attend a charity cricket match instead.

Stumpea

MAJOR Ron Ferguson is batting for Jilly Cooper. At the launch of her new novel about fumblings in the orchestra pit, Appassionata, he suggested that the cricket world should be the arena for her next bonkbuster. The "galloping" Ma-jor, who has bowled the occasional maiden over, says Jilly has al-ready dropped in to research the idea at his new indoor cricket school. "There are the same offfield shenanigans in cricket as in anything else," declared the Ma-jor. And he should know.

Hopping mad

SPORTS NEWS from Sweden: a springy character by the name of Snuffy has hopped into the record books as the winner of the inaugural Rabbit Olympics. The most ludicrous activity now in existence. bunny athletics claims to be the fastest-growing sport in Scandina-via. Channel 4 has been covering the event.

The floppy-eared were fed a strict pre-competition diet of ba-



Bunny boom in Sweden

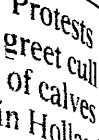
nanas and sugar. The shock of the tournament was that the Swedish favourite, Flames of Fame, took only the bronze medal, "She had sex before the tournament," explained her owner. "Always a disaster."

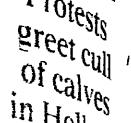
One's nag

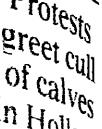
I WAS delighted to see that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother yesterday enjoyed better fortune on the turf than in the Irish National on Monday, when her chaser Norman Conqueror cracked a knee and was later put down.

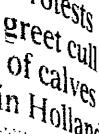
At Fontwell in West Sussex. Her

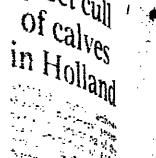
Majesty's light blue and buff colours were carried to victory by Keel Row, an 8-1 chance in the Gallagher Group Handicap Hurdle. "Great fillip to everyone, especially Her Majesty," said trainer Tim Thomson Jones. "It's just what we needed,"











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FIRE STATE

INS AND OUTS OF EMU Monetary sovereignty is non-negotiable Kenneth Clarke meets his European Union counterparts today in Verona to discuss the future relationship between the countries that may join a European Monetary Union and those which, by choice or necessity, remain outside. This will be a first canter across treacherous terrain. The "ins and outs" debate has barely begun. But already there are complaints about "free riders" and "competitive" devaluations, and demands for common discipline, financial penalties

and even trade sanctions within Europe. These menacing phrases are heard mostly in France but also in other EU countries and in the European Commission. They make economic nonsense: trade sanctions are the last way to promote greater convergence between Europe's economies. Such penalties would also be illegal. But there is political significance in these mere threats. They underline the potential of monetary union between a small group of EU countries not only to damage the EU's only great achievement, the European single market, but also to threaten the cohesion and workability of the EU itself.

The issue at Verona is not whether the Chancellor will be caught in a monetary ambush. In the first place, the purported trap, compulsory membership of a new European Monetary System for all states which do not participate in monetary union, is not yet even designed. In addition, were any such scheme on the table, the Chancellor could and should argue that there is no basis in the Maastricht treaty for compelling Britain or any other country to join a new exchange-rate mechanism, or to rejoin the old. Article 109m of the treaty requires each state to "treat its exchange-rate policy as a matter of common interest"; but

how it does so is up to each government. This debate may never have to be joined if. at Verona, Mr Clarke establishes some basic principles. The first is that there can never be the agenda at Verona.

any legal justification for tampering with the single market, full participation in which is the unequivocal treaty-based right of every member of the EU. The second is that Britain will accept no dilution, however disguised, of the provision in the Maastricht opt-out protocol which states that "the United Kingdom shall retain its powers in the field of monetary policy in accordance with national law". This would rule out British agreement to plans by the European Commission or by any EU government to introduce formal or even informal controls over the economies of non-members - such as Hans Tietmeyer's proposal for a system of "regular surveillance" by the president of

the future European Central Bank. Mr Clarke should also challenge France and Germany to explain why, if they are as convinced as they claim that Emu will confer huge economic benefits on its members, they are so worried that the "outs" will have "unfair" advantages over those tied into Emu. He should invite the Commission to explain how it can argue simultaneously that "competitive devaluations" are dooned to fail, and yet be so anxious to guard against exchange rate flexibility.

John Major opened a can of worms when he challenged Britain's EU partners to study the impact of a partial Emu. The economist's answer to his questions about "how a single currency and the currencies of the rest of the EU would coexist" and "what would it mean for the single market" is that the situation will differ little from today's de facto mark zone. It is the political answers that spell trouble. The purpose claimed for Emu is to enhance political as well as economic integration. By their determination to control the exchange rates of the "outs", the "ins" could put at risk the very goals for which they have required their electorates to sacrifice so much. That is what should be on

ROCK SOLID

Smuggling is wrong, but so is Spain's attitude to Gibraltar

Ever since it ceded Gibraltar to Britain in 1713. Spain has pretended that the Treaty of Utrecht did not exist. For over two centuries and a half, our relationship with Madrid has tended to be one of rivalry and illregard, prompted largely by Spain's unwillingness to digest British sovereignty on the Rock Gibraltar's status as British territory has never been in reasonable doubt: and its original, lawful acquisition by the Crown was underlined yet again by the people voted for Spanish sovereignty - as opposed to more than 12,000 who reaffirmed their association with Britain.

This week, Gibraltar has again reared its head in Hispano-British relations. A Spanish police helicopter sank at sea on Wednesday while in pursuit of a Gibraltarian smuggler's launch, unfortunately killing an officer of the Guardia Civil. There is some initial suggestion that the smugglers may have caused the crash — a broken oar has been found in the helicopter's rear rotor. Britain's Ambassador to Madrid was summoned yesterday to the Spanish Foreign Office for a considerable dressing-down, and Spain has once more accused Britain of "failing to eradicate the trafficking which

proceeds from Gibraltar". There is no doubt that smugglers of tobacco and certain proscribed drugs operate out of Gibraltar. They secure their illegal goods in nearby Morocco and land them into the hands of their Spanish artners-in-crime, on the largely unpatrolled coast of southern Spain. Madrid. as we have said before, has a proper interest in stopping this criminal trade. What is in question, however, is the manner in which it approaches the issue. Regrettably, Spain's methods have been consistently internperate. In suggesting that Britain is "not doing enough" - and that the Gibraltarian authorities are "turning a blind eye" -Madrid not only adopts a blunderbuss approach to a complex problem, it fails also to recognise that considerable advances have been made by the administration on the Rock in the fight against smuggling.

That administration recognises, also, that the smuggling to get out of control: and if this was not already clear on the Rock, it was made doubly so last July by Douglas Hurd, then Foreign Secretary. But there is no evidence to show that the administration of Joe Bossano, the Chief Minister, is evading its responsibilities, or that it is in any way conniving at the contraband business: for the Spanish to suggest otherwise is both invidious and unhelpful.

Spain needs to handle this problem with greater sophistication. Co-operation, not confrontation, is what is now needed. Unfortunately, to co-operate with Gibraltar on any matter is still anathema to Madrid. obsessed as it is with its long-running dream of reclamation. The Rock, however, is not there for the taking: Spain must focus. instead, on its more immediate interests.

Yet if Madrid discharges its ire in the traditional manner - by imposing even more arduous controls on the land border between the Rock and La Linea, in Spain -Britain must leave its EU partner in no doubt that this would be both improper and unlawful. The problems of Gibraltar can be addressed only with a cool head: it is no good for Spain to stamp its feet.

DUETS AND DUELS

How to keep the box office Bizet

Operatic duels are not restricted to Eugene Onegin and one does not have to go to Bayreuth to see love and power contend for mastery - our Arts page today is the stage for a conflict as passionate as any penned by Tchaikovsky or Wagner. Our opera critic Rodney Milnes and the impresario. Raymond Gubbay, point scores at each other in a titanic tussle over bringing high art to big audiences. Mr Milnes stands, broadly, for standards, Mr Gubbay, in a word, for crowds, but even though their amour propre forbids agreement it is not impossible to see merit in them both.

The cause of their falling-out is Mr Gubbay's production of La Bohème at the Albert Hall earlier this year. Mr Gubbay wanted to extend opera's appeal with an accessible show. Mr Milnes savaged it and Mr Gubbay believes the critic is motivated by a base desire to keep opera élitist and preserve his pleasures from the depredations of the swinish multitude. The accusation, if true, would be a grave one. Opera is the empress of arts, bringing music, drama and design together in one exquisite fusion.

As Ernest Bevin once observed over the Mits-Saint-Georges, nothing is too good for the working classes. Anything which impedes the greatest possible access to opera is to be abhorred. Like fine burgundy, opera is complex enough to appeal to the intellectual, but sensually powerful enough to sweep anyone away. In the gods at La Scala the beer-flecked lips of tattooed truck drivers move in tandem with the tenor and scores of

horny hands wield imaginary batons. If the workers of Milan can appreciate opera why shouldn't Basildon man go to Bohème?

But arguing for access should not mean demanding dilution. Opera, like wine. should not be watered down and Mr Milnes is right to insist that standards be maintained. Provide new audiences with a second-rate or unnecessarily simplified show and they will ask what all the fuss is about. Not only will the newcomers lose out. but so will the Covent Garden elitists if popular prejudice holds their subsidised entertainment in low esteem.

The greatest barrier to more widespread appreciation of opera is still cost. Staging opera at its best will always be expensive. Orchestras, choruses and sets combine to make costs more mountainous than an interval plate of Pavarotti's pasta, but the most massive single burden of all is the fee demanded by the biggest stars. The Three Tenors may have popularised opera but a seat to see any one of them now costs rather nearer nine tenners.

Fortunately, from Opera North to the Welsh National Opera, there are flourishing British companies who stage stunning productions without asking the earth. A dash of Gubbay commercialism might help them to market their product more effectively, but cheaper should not mean cheapened. Under no circumstances should they stoop to conquer new crowds - as Cosi Fan Tutte shows, weakening to win new admirers is never worth it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street. London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

NUT Cardiff conference (leading arti-

cle, April 9) contained a strong admix-

ture of panic. It may be that some

teachers are not so much opposed to

change as alarmed (quite naturally) at

the prospect of being required to teach

what they ought to know something

From the Archdeacon of Pontefract

Sir, The slide in teenagers' spelling skills coincides with the period in

which the decline in the teaching of

I would readily agree that the gram-

mar of modern English needs to be

dynamic, and not over-dependent on

Latin syntax. But I would have

thought it beyond doubt that a work-

ing knowledge of Latin vocabulary is

essential if students are to spell with

The rules governing prefix and suf-

fix are particularly important and ig-

norance of them is at the root of many

spelling mistakes. A lew lessons in

basic Latin for all examination stu-

dents could improve the situation con-

Latin has been most marked.

accuracy and confidence.

about, but don't.

Yours faithfully,

The Old Vicarage Cottage,

Chesterton, Oxfordshire.

D. B. JOLE,

April 9.

siderably.

April 9.

Yours sincerely.

JOHN FLACK,

10 Arden Court,

West Yorkshire.

Horbury, Wakefield,

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir. The suggestion in the study by the

University of Cambridge Local Exam-

inations Syndicate (report, April 8)

that "alright" is an incorrect spelling.

as against "all right", is a piece of ped-

Such words as "altogether", "al-

ready", "albeit" began as "all to-

gether", "all ready", "all be it", and the

convenience of their alteration has

made their present spelling standard.

Surely it is time (whatever the diction-

aries may say) to confer the same

antry long overdue for scrapping.

Problems in teaching and the decline of written English

more positively to the prospect of

From Mrs Jane Moran

Sir. For some time, various studies and my own experience within higher education have confirmed the findings that there has been a marked deterioration in standards of written English (report April 8; leading article. April 9). This situation has resulted in undergraduates being unable to express themselves adequately in writing. They are at a considerable disadvantage in constructing logical arguments and therefore unable to attain their academic potential.

Middlesex University has made a vigorous attempt over the past few years to combat this situation by providing classes in basic and academic written English for British students in the various faculties. These have been very successful, resulting in a significant improvement in the students' achievement within their core subjects. In addition, many more undergraduates have gone on to complete their studies. We have found this approach very cost-effective.

It is a national disgrace that standards of English have been allowed to fall. Until all our young people are provided with adequate writing skills. we are depriving them of the opportunity to reach their potential in many important areas of learning.

Yours faithfully, JANE MORAN (Senior lecturer), Middlesex University, School of Modern Languages, Queensway, Enfield, Middlesex.

From Mr A. G. Chapman

Sir, In your misguided attack on the teaching profession (leading article, April 5) you compare the assessments of individual teachers by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) with those of pupils, yet how unfair to them it would be to award qualifications on the basis of only two pieces of work completed over a week (report, March

You make no mention of the fact that many Ofsted inspectors have never taught the national curriculum, or may have been ineffective teachers

Teachers are not demeaning their profession: I can hardly see experienced doctors or lawyers reacting any

Sir, Unlike Elizabeth Noel ("Get out of

the pulpit, Mr Blair", April 9) I am de-

is apparently being guided by Christ-

ian beliefs and principles in setting his

As for saying that religion and poli-

tics do not mix. Elizabeth Noel is over-

looking the fact that the Gospels are

full of accounts of Jesus's ministry,

championing the poor and standing

up for the rights of the underprivi-

leged and marginalised in the com-

munity. This cannot be characterised

A good dose of Christian morality

and teaching would help, I believe, to

overcome the present malaise of secu-

larism, materialism and hedonism

which is undermining, amongst other

things, the family and personal rela-

tionships and thus destroying the fab-

Get back in the pulpit, Mr Blair.

and continue to follow your con-

The Street, Eversley, Hampshire.

Sir, I suggest the reactions of Eliza-

beth Noel and of other Conservatives

ric of our society.

New Cottage.

science and sneak out!

IAN S. BLACKSHAW,

From Mr Richard Warden

in any way as being apolitical.

political agenda for this country.

ighted that one of our political leaders

Christian politics

From Mr Ian S. Blackshaw

some lesser qualified inspectors sitting at their elbow for a week and passing subjective judgments on their professional skill and integrity.

Yours faithfully, A. G. CHAPMAN, 18 Heyes Road. Orrell, Wigan, Lancashire. April 6.

From Dr Peter Greenhalgh

Sir. The trouble with the teaching pro-fession, underlined by the NUT vote for unrepresentative militancy (report, April 9), is that it is not a profession at all. As long as it has "unions" and takes "industrial action" it will never have the popular respect afforded to professions regulated by truly professional institutions like the royal colleges of the medical and nursing professions or the equivalents to which accountants, architects, engin-

eers or lawyers belong. It is not just a matter of terminology but of ethos. A royal college of teaching could do much to restore the standards of a once proud and dedicated profession and also help depoliticise educational debate and policy.

Yours faithfully, PETER GREENHALGH. Westwood House, Westwood, Southfleet, Kent.

From Mr D. B. Jole

Sir, More may underlie the sharp decline in teenage written English than just the reluctance of many teachers to insist on the knowledge, and use, of grammar and syntax.

The teachers your leading article calls upon to mend their ways by instructing more rigorously are presented rather as people who have, over a long period and for ideological reasons, withheld knowledge which they should now divulge to their pupils: the correct and effective writing of English. In fact, of course, many of these teachers are just as much victims of the long decline as their pupils are. If you asked them to teach sentencestructure, or grammar, they would, with honourable exceptions, have only a faint idea of what you were talking about.

I feel that the "melancholy roar" which you heard issuing from the

G. ELLENBOGEN, 9 Montagu Square, Wl. April 9.

sanction on alright.

I am etc.

ters. April 10) are more revealing than Could it be that the Government would be embarrassed if Christian values were introduced into politics during the run-up to a general election? Applying these values to the Government's performance would, I believe, disclose much of the arrog-Yours faithfully. ance, hypocrisy and lack of justice that

have ensued from many of its actions. The consistent pattern the Govern-Bredon, ment shows is the ability to implement policies that, superficially, seem April 10. acceptable; but when they go wrong ministers walk away and place the blame elsewhere. We appear to have a Government with authority but without responsibility. This abrogation opens the door for religion to enter

politics. We must lose the naive view of Christianity. Christians are not prevented from making judgments about others, neither are they quiet, pious souls who should not speak out. When Archbishop Tutu was asked why he had become so involved in politics, he replied it was because the politicians (of the ANC) were prevented from representing the black people.

In our case we have a Government that has failed to represent the majority of our people. Consequently, it should come as no shock to ministers if people are going "back to basics" and reassessing the Government, us-ing their fundamental beliefs to decide

(report and leading article, April 8; letwhat sort of country they want. I suggest Elizabeth Noel is quite

wrong in saving that religion cannot reveal where to put the cross at the polls. In the late 1980s I could no lonactions offended my beliefs. My beliefs had not changed, and I now know where to put the cross.

RICHARD WARDEN, 2 Waterloo Way. Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

From Mrs Diana Stiles

Sir, William Rees-Mogg suggests that the Labour Party is likely to impose more taxes than the Tories ("Wine, Women and Labour", April 11).

As a Liberal Democrat, I believe that Labour would be more concerned to do something to redress the deficiencies in education, community care, the National Health Service, etc. while the Tories would be at pains to leave Lord Rees-Mogg with plenty of money to buy his champagne.

Did I read something recently about political parties and Christian attitudes?

Yours faithfully. DIANA STILES, l Alces Place. Firle Road, Seaford, East Sussex. April 11.

Royal Yacht plans

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch Sir, Fitness for purpose defines excellence in an artefact. It follows that the purpose of a successor to HM Yacht Britannia must be agreed before alternative designs may usefully be pro-duced and compared.

Since even "the very act of typing the words 'Royal Yacht' " caused Libby Purves "to squirm" ("History in the making". April 9), her views on the matter may be disregarded - unless, perhaps, she could commit to paper, without undue discomfiture, the words "a vessel fit for use by the monarch, as Head of the Commonwealth, for recreation and state visits".

Yours faithfully, IAN McGEOCH, Kirk Deighton House, Kirk Deighton. Wetherby, Yorkshire. April 9.

From Commander Edward Young

Sir, Libby Purves's interesting article on the proposed replacement for Britannia rightly emphasises its most important role as a sail training ship. Can't we now drop the term "Royal Yacht", call it the Royal Sail Training Ship, and in due course launch it as HMS Great Britain? And would it not be a worthy candidate for a large share of its funding to be provided by the National Lottery?

Yours etc, EDWARD YOUNG. 15 Maple Walk. Rustington, West Sussex.

Airline 'bumping'

From Mr Kenneth Campbell

Sir. As a retired airline employee with experience of passengers being "bumped" (letters, April 4, 6). I am surprised that in this day of constantly improving computer technology this segment of passenger service is being ignored at the expense of the people who pay for tickets. Perhaps airline computer programmers could explain why their present systems cannot protect the product.

Harvey Elliott in "The Travel Business" (April 4) gives the airline reasoning for this practice which is the easy way out for less than efficient airline management, but which must be a

drain on resources to keep in place. If three major European airlines were to take a stand and refuse to honour abused tickets from other airlines or travel agents, these practices would soon cease and passengers could travel to airports with confidence.

Only the airlines can resolve this problem, not the International Air Transport Association; it is their product that is being exploited, and it only needs the good management which exists in some airlines but not in others to eliminate this costly system.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH CAMPBELL 129 Staines Road, Laleham, Staines, Middlesex.

Bill of Rights

From Mr J. A. Davis

Sir. I disagree with the assertion by the Director of Charter 88 (letter. April 6) that the lack of a Bill of Rights leaves us "vulnerable to the exercise of centralised power".

Bills of Rights and written constitutions do not protect the people from government, they merely redistribute power within government. They take power from an elected parliament and

> Business letters, page 25 Sports letters, page 34

Letters should earry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

place it in the hands of unelected judges thereby reducing the ability of the ordinary man to control his own destiny. They are necessary in federations but in unitary states such as ours merely interfere with the supremacy of Parliament.

The arbitrary abolition and equally arbitrary restoration of the death penalty in the United States of America by the Supreme Court without a single vote in Congress is a fine example of how such systems work in practice. I, like David Selbourne (article, March 29), prefer democracy, thank you.

Yours faithfully, J. A. DAVIS, (Clerk to the Justices. Kingston upon Thames 1982-1993), 54 Woodlands Road. Bookham, Surrey.

April 6.

Mary, Mary quite incomprehensible

From Miss Sandy Carlier

Sir, Your theatre critic, Benedict Nightingale, recently commented on the portrayal of Mary by the French actress, Isabelle Huppert, in the current production of Schiller's Mary Stuart at the Royal National Theatre ("Queenly quarrels with an acute accent", Arts, March 23).

Mr Nightingale wrote that Miss Huppert speaks our language "half as comprehensibly" as the actor who plays the part of the French ambassador, and he refers to her "rush of dropped vowels and blurred syllables". These were not harsh comments.

I am afraid that I found Miss Huppert's delivery incomprehensible in its entirety, which was irritating, particularly as a new translation was on offer. For once in my life, I decided to complain.

In response, Richard Eyre (the RNT's artistic director) wrote me a letter in which he admits that Miss Huppert's accent is strong, but says that she speaks fluent English and has worked hard at adopting English speech rhythms and patterns. This will undoubtedly improve as time goes on."

However, he then posits that "her delivery of the lines further heightens the isolation and bewilderment of the character she is playing". On this view, incomprehensibility must be some kind of litmus test of the isolated character.

If this were to be so, then numerous isolated characters, from the pens of Chekhov, Ibsen, Pinter, Beckett and Shakespeare, would have been given gibberish to speak by their authors. I had always imagined that we went to the theatre for the communicative power of the spoken word.

Yours faithfully, SANDY CARLIER, 9 Broadway Court, 62 Overbury Avenue, Beckenham, Kent.

Boos at the Garden

From Mr Nicholas Albery

Sir, Re your front-page story today (later editions) about the booing of the new production of Nabucco at Covent Garden, I do wish the Lottery or somebody could finance an Opera Time Machine, so that the small, unrepresentative and rude claque who boo my brother Tim's innovative opera productions could watch totally traditional operas, faithfully reproducing the original production and no references to present times.

They might even learn how to clap and cheer and be able to find some joy in their mean-spirited hearts.

Yours faithfully. NICHOLAS ALBERY. 20 Heber Road, NW2. April 10.

Washing of feet

From Ms Caroline Bingham

Sir, I was surprised that the Vatican has forbidden the washing of the feet of women as part of the Maundy Thursday ceremony (report, April 5) and by the statement that the ritual has been confined to men in the past.

On the contrary, it was the custom of female sovereigns to wash the feet of women. For example, the Catholic Mary Queen of Scots was accustomed to wash the feet of the number of women corresponding to the years of her own age.
In 1566 the ritual was shared by her

consort, Henry, Lord Darnley. He washed the feet of thirteen 'poor virgins", whose number equalled that of Christ and His disciples. So, obviously there was no question that a woman could not be considered to represent either the Lord or one of the

Yours faithfully, CAROLINE BINGHAM. 164 Regent's Park Road, NWI. April 5.

Knight of the road

From Mr J. Whittle

Sir, In Sir Denis Thatcher your Steering Column (Car 96, April 6) has found an interviewee who, when asked about points on his licence, doesn't feel obliged to indulge in adolescent macho boasting about his convictions for speeding.

Can it be that even motoring enthusiasts grow up when they reach the age of 80?

Yours faithfully. J. WHITTLE, 185 Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire.

Ostrich venture

From Mr Bernard N. Steven-Fountain

Sir, You report (Business, April 11) that the Department of Trade and Industry failed to act for over a year after official warnings about the Ostrich Farming Corporation. Presumably they had their heads in the sand.

Yours faithfully. B. N. STEVEN-FOUNTAIN, 32 Westbourne Park Road, Bournemouth, Dorset. April II.



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE April II: The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Reception and Dinner at the outset of an Interfaith Meeting at Chartridge Conference Centre, Chesham,

Buckinghamshire. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Mr John Thompson (Deputy Con-sul-General in New York) at the Memorial Service for Miss Sharman Douglas which was held in Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York, this afternoon. The Princess Margaret, Count-

by Dr Christopher Burdess. BUCKINGHAM PALACE April II: The Princess Royal. Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, today visited Ailsa Craig Lighthouse on board MV Pharos

ST JAMES'S PALACE April II: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the Secretary of the Duchy

sented by the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Hon Aylmer Tryon which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London SWI, this afternoon. KENSINGTON PALACE April 11: The Princess of Wales this

of Cornwall (Mr John James). His Royal Highness was repre-

evening attended a Piano Recital in aid of the Voices Foundation at the Royal Festival Hall, London SEI. April 11: The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon opened the Swan Pool and Leisure Centre, London Road, Buckingham, and was re-ceived on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Bucking shire (Commander the Lord Cottesloe). Afterwards His Royal Highness

opened the Renal Unit at Milton Keynes General Hospital.
The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon received Commander Thomas Cunningham on assum-ing command of HMS Gloucester.

Lady Miriam Today's royal engagements Hubbard

The Princess Royal, as Patron of A memorial service to celebrate the life of Lady Miriam Hubbard will be held in St Edmundsbury Cathethe Northern Lighthouse Board, will visit Davaar Lighthouse Campbeltown, at 8.45; and will visit Sanda Lighthouse, Sanda, Kintyre, at 11.00. dral, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, on Friday, May 3, 1996, at 1.40pm. In memoriam donations to St Nicholas' Hospice, Bury St Ed-munds, Suffolk, IP33 2QY.

Birthdays today

Mr Alan Ayckbourn, playwright, 57; Mr Bill Bryden, theatre direc-tor, 54: Miss Montserrat Caballe, opera singer, 63; Mr Brian Connell, writer and broadcaster, 80: Miss Elspet Gray (Lady Rix), actress. 67: Mr H.R. Hewitt. former chairman, Johnson Manhey, 76; the Right Rev John T. Hughes, former Bishop to the Forces, 88; Mr Uwe Kitzinger, former President. Templeton College. Oxford. 68: the Earl of Limerick. 66: Mr A.W. Mabbs. archivist, 75; Mr Bryan Magee, writer, 66; Air Marshal Sir Harold Maguire, 84: Mr E.C. Meade, chartered accountant, 73: Dr Hilary Nicolle, educationist, 51: Mr Harald Penrose, test pilot and air historian, 92: Lady Ricketts. former chairman, National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux. 77: Mr George Robertson, MP, 50 Mrs Wendy Savage, obstetrician and gynaccologist, of.

Reception

British Safety Council Mr James Tye, Director-General of the British Safety Council, was the host at a reception held yesterday at Armourers' Hall for the council's Diploma in Safety Management awards

David Marlow, OBE

A memorial service will be held for David Marlow, OBE, former Chief Executive of Hammersmith Oueen Charlotte's Special Health Authority, on Wednesday, April 17, at St Peter's Church, Black Lion Lane, Hammersmith, London Wo. The service will take place at 4pm and will be followed by a reception at Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital. For further details, ring 0181 740

Reed's School

Summer Term begins on Sunday, April 14, with Angus Hamilton as Captain of School and Robert Hilton, Captain of Cricket, An Open Morning will be held on Saturday, May 18, and the Choral Society will sing Mozart's Requiem, on Sunday, May 19. Old Reedonian Reunion is on Saturday, June 29, and term ends on Saturday, July 6, on the night of which the Leavers Ball will be

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS: Giuseppe Tartini, composer, Istria, 1692; John George Lambion 1st Earl of Durham. statesman, London, 1797; Alexander Ostrovsky, dramatist, Mos-

DEATHS: Boris Godunov, Tsar of Russia 1598-1605, Moscow, 1605; Charles Burney, music historian and composer. London, 1814; Feodor Chaliapin, bass singer and actor, Paris, 1938; Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd American President 1933-45, Warm Springs. Georgia. 1945; Antoine Pevsner, sculptor, Paris, 1962: Joe Louis, the Brown Bomber", world heavy-

Las Vegas, 1981; Alan Srewart Paton, writer. Durban, 1988; Sugar Ray Robinson, boxer, Culver City, California 1989 The Union Jack became England's

official flag, 1606. The American Civil War began with the siege of Fort Sumter, South Carolina, 1861. Vice-President Harry S. Truman succeeded Roosevelt as American

Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union made the first successful flight into

Ruined mill loses its early claim to fame



enigmatic ruin in Newport. Rhode Island, long claimed to be a remnant of the Norse colonisation of America, has turned out to be solidly 17th-century (Nigel Hawkes writes). It probably owes its origins not to Vinland but to Warwickshire.

The Newport Tower, seen here in a rustic painting done by Gilbert Stuart in the 1770s, has been a ruin since at least that time, and features in a romantic poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, The Skeleton in Armour. Claims that it might be a Nordic church built in the 12th century have been countered by a simpler explanation, that it was the ruin of a mill built by Benedict Arnold, the 17th-century Governor of Rhode Island

Now two professors, Jan Heinemeier of Aarhus University and Högue Jungner of Helsinki University, have carbon-dated the mortar in Newport Tower. Mortar consists of calcium hydroxide mixed with water and sand, which hardens by taking up carbon dioxide from the air to form calcium

The carbon-14 content of the mortar

Judicial

Studies Board.

Medawar, QC.

District judges

Circuit

ern Circuit.

Tribunals

appointments

Judge John H. Roberts to be a

member of the Ethnic Minorities Advisory Committee of the Judicial

He succeeds Judge Nicholas

Mr Stuart Plaskow, Mr Michael Charles Gilchrist and Mr John

Austin Sparrow to be District

Judges on the South Eastern

Mr Ian Stuart Fairwood to be a

District Judge on the North East-

Ms Carol Edwina Taylor to be a full-time chairman of Industrial

Tribunals from April 29. She will

be assigned to the London South

Mr James Aiden O'Brien Quinn to

Recent estates include (net before

Mr Derek Roy Munson, of Hadleigh, Suffolk E1.454,354.

Mrs Mary Frances Stuart, of

Chaddesley Corbett, Hereford and

Mrs Minnie Temkin, of London

Mary Montgomery West, of Wal-

ton on Thames, Surrey... £642,265.

Mrs Marjorie Louise Wilkinson.

of Beaconsfield, Buckingham-

... £668,943,

Immigration Appeal Tribunal.

Latest wills

can thus give a measure of its age. But the method has its pitfalls, because the mortar may contain old limestone, or carbon from sand or fillers, which would give too old a date. Delayed hardening of the mortar could have the opposite

effect, giving a younger age.

The two scientists believe that they have minimised the risk of both these errors, and produce a date of between 1635 and 1698. There is only one chance in 20 of the tower having been built outside this period, they report.

Archaeological work on the tower has been supported by the Committee for Research on Norse Activities in North America, who would doubtless have preferred an earlier date. But the tower is still of considerable historical interest, argues Dr Johannes Hertz, Deputy Antiquary of the Royal National Museum of Denmark

He sees striking similarities between the arched structure of the tower and a windmill in Chesterton, Warwickshire, reputedly the work of Inigo Jones. The Chesterton Mill was built in 1632 on the orders of Sir Edward Peyto, and is a forerunner of the follies that landowners

Memorial service

The Hoa Aylmer Tryon

The Prince of Wales was repre-sented by the Earl of Pembroke

and Montgomery at a service of

thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Aylmer Tryon held yesterday in the Guards Chapel. Wellington

Barracks. The Rev Jonathan Gough officiated.

The Hon Charles Tryon, great

nephew, and the Hon Mrs Mac-

donald, niece, gave readings, Lord

Tryon, nephew, gave an address.

Tryon, nephew, gave an address. Among others present were Dreda Lady Tryon (sister-in-law), the Hon Zoë Tryon, the Hon Edward Tryon. In Hon Victoria Tryon. Mr Hamish Macdonald, Miss Laura Macdonald.

The Marquess of Hartington, Major-General Earl and Countess of Chichester, the Earl and Countess of Chichester, the Earl and Countess of Home, the Earl of Perth, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Lord Carrington, Lord Congleton, Lord Genedyne, Lady Howard de Walden, Lord Swanssea, Lord and Lady Tollemache, Lady Winliffide Freeman, Lady Gillan

Howard de Walden. Lord Swansea. Lord and Lady Tollemache. Lady Winlifide Preeman. Lady Gillian Anderson, Lady Elizabeth Baxendale, Lady Diana Herbert. Lady Elizabeth Longman. Lady Rockley, Lady Angela Whitely, the Hon Edward Adeane, the Hon Mrs David Bigham, the Hon and Mrs Charles Cecil, the Hon Lady de Zulueta. The Hon Peregrine Pairlax the Hon Mrs Houston, the Hon Sir Charles Morrison. Major the Hon Langs Morrison. Sir Raymond and Lady Burrell, Brigadler Sir Jeffrey Darell, Sir Charles Graham. Sir Christopher Lever, Sir Glies Loder, Sir Anthony and Lady Meyer, Lieutenam-Colonel Sir Julian and Lady Rasch. Sir Joshua and the Hon Lady Rowley, Sir Hereward and Lady Marcha Fonsonby, Sir Richard and Lady Rasch. Sir Joshua and the Hon Lady Rowley, Sir Hereward and Lady Wake, Lady Sykes, the Lord-Ledward Lady Marcha Fonsonby. Lady Bowes-Lyon, Sir Arthur Collins, General Sir David and Lady Fraser, Lieutenam-Colonel Sir John Johnson. Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Mackenzie, Sir Francis Pemberton, Lady Villiers, Sir Brian Warren. Air Chief Marshal Sir Nell Wheeler, Sir David and Lady

Wills, Major and the Hon Mrs John Bowley, Mr John and Lady Sophia Heywood, Wing Commander Leonard and Lady Berly Winnington.
Mrs Julian Barrow, Mrs A Bate, Mrs A Berkwith-Smith, Mr J Bird, Mr Philip Blacker, Mr William Bolt, Mr Robin Borham-Carter, Brigadier and Mrs A Stellunger. Mr Mark Burrell, Mr C O Cherwode, Mr James Dolgey, Mr

Mr and Mrs W N Seymour, Mr and Mrs Leo Seymour, Mrs J Sheffield, Mr A G Trituon. Mr Gerald Ward. Dr Catherine Wills, Mr M Woodcock. Lieutenant-Colonel Conway Seymour (representing the Grenadd), the Hon David Bigham (Tryon and Swann Gallery) and Commander N T Fuller (Flyrishers Club).

Funeral service

Lady William Montagu Douglas

Their Royal Highnesses Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and

the Duke and Duchess of Glouces-

ter were present at the funeral of Lady William Montagu Douglas Scott, held on Wednesday. April

10. at Holy Trinity Church,

The Rev Dr D.W. Wood offici-

ated, assisted by Canon O.L.S.

Readings were by the Duke of Buccleuch, KT, and the Earl of

Home (nephews) and the Hon

Louisa-Jane Gurdon (grand-

used to adorn their parks. Built of local limestone. Chesterton mill rests on six semicircular moulded arches. Though only legend links Inigo Jones to the building, it was clearly designed by an architect of quality. The diameter of the mill is 22ft

The Newport Tower, though not identical, is certainly very similar. It has eight arches instead of six, and the stonework is rough-cast rather than the smooth ashlar at Chesterton. But the diameter, at 23ft, is almost identical, and the masonry was originally covered in smooth render to simulate ashlar.

Whether Benedict Arnold had ever seen the Chesterton mill is unknown, but even if he had not it is quite possible that building workers joining the colony would have brought information about t with them.

"By constructing his mill in the same spirit Governor Arnold made a substantial contribution to the creation of a New England on foreign territory," Dr Hertz says. Undaunted, the Norse committee is continuing to search for evidence to back its claims.

University news

Cambridge King's College

Elected into a senior research fellowship in Mathematical Biology in the external competition with effect from October 1, 1996: Adam Stanislaw Klerzkowski.

Durham Professor Malcolm Todd, currently at Exeter University, has been appointed Principal of Trevelyan College, Durham, from September 1.

Honorary degrees Dr Elizabeth Hall, Medical Direcof the St Helena Hospice. Colchester, Sir Sigmund Stern-berg, Founder of the Sternberg Centre for Judaism, and Professor Ron Johnston former Vice-Chancellor of Essex University have

Stirling The university is to receive £200,000 from the Wywy Group. Singapore, to establish a new Professorship of Japanese Studies. The arrangement has been made

Director of the Scottish Centre for Japanese Studies (SCJS), and Mr Wong Yip Yan, founder and chairman of Wywy. The new professorship will be a permanent chair. The initial appointment is planned for the 1996-97 academic year. The Kyushu Power Company of Japan has given \$100,000 to SCJS to assist students to take research degrees at Stirling in Japanese

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.S. Black and Miss J.E. Bonds The engagement is announced between Roderick, younger son of Mrs Elizabeth Stuart Black and the late Mr lain Stuart Black, of Clarkston, Glasgow, and Judith Elizabeth, daughter of Mr John Bonds and the late Mrs Margaret Bonds, and stepdaughter of Mrs Inger-Marie Bonds, of Hindhead,

Mr D.G. Brocksom

and Miss C. Rys and Miss C. Rys

The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Brocksom, of Sutton, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Henri Rys, of Paris,

Mr D.E. Brown
and Miss J.M.S. Wallace
The engagement is announced
between David, second son of Mr
and Mrs Peter Brown, of Abbots
Bromley, Staffordshire, and
Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and
Mrs Sandy Wallace, of Heacham.
Norfolk

Norfolk. Mr N.C. Don: and Miss S.L.M. Stangton
The engagement is announced
between Niall, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Donaldson, of Auchterarder. Perthshire, and Sarah, younger daughter of Sir Christopher and

Lady Staughton, of Sarratt. Hertfordshire. Mr S.J. Powell and Miss N.J. Stones The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs J.A. Powell, of Wherwell,

Hampshire, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. Stones, of Mr N.J.S. Taylor-Young and Miss S.C.L. Bennett

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs C.W. Taylor-Young, of Widlord, Hertfordshire, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.A. Bennett, of Brenchley, Kent. Mr L Tornbull and Miss L.J. Goldsmith

The engagement is announced between Luke, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Turnbull, of Rufford, Lancashire, and Lucinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alick

Mr A.H. Hobart and Miss C.J. Dennis The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Hobart, of Buckland, Oxfordshire, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Dennis, of Marlow.

Mr A.D. Knill-Jones

Mr A.D. Kmil-Jones
and Miss K.A. Boatsian
The engagement is announced
between Andrew, son of Mr D.
Knill-Jones, of Cheam, Surrey, and
Mrs N. Holt, of Over Stratum. Somerset, and Kary, daughter of Mr and Mrs DJ. Bostman, of Little Chesterford, Essex.

Mr.P. Thomas and Miss M.C. Ortega. The engagement is announced between Paul, son of the late Mr Alan Thompson and of Dr Janer Thompson, both of London, and Meagan Colleen, only daughter of

Mr Jorge Ortega and Ms Leslie Arthur, of New Haven, Connecticut. Mr J.K. Thornton and Miss S.L.E. Nicholls

The engagement is announced between Jolyon, fourth son of Mr and Mrs Brian Thornton, of Lydney, Gloucestershire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Nicholls, of Diss, Norfolk. Mr J.S. Wells and Miss E.L. Andrews

The engagement is announced between Julian, elder son of Mr and Mrs W.S. Wells, of Wreningham, Norfolk, and Emma, elder daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs J.E. Andrews, of Rockland St Mary, Norfolk.

Mr J.N. Young and Miss K.J. Lee

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ray Young, of Shepperton-on-Thames, Middlesex, and Katharine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Lee. of

Marriage

Major M.F. Guest and Mrs E.A. King
The marriage took place on April
b. 1996, at Green Shadows, Kilmahog, Callander, between Major Michael Guest and Mrs

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Ian Gooding, Assistant Curate, The Dorcan Church, Swindon (Bristol): to be Team Vicar, Langley Marish Team Ministry, w responsibility for St Francis (Oxford).

The Rev Simon Griffiths, Chaplain and Succentor, Rochester Cathedral (Rochester): now Chaplain to Chichester Institute of Higher

Education (Chichester). The Rev Brian Hall, Assistant Curate, St John's, Mansfield: to be Assistant Curate, St Andrew's, Skegby and All Saints (Chapel of ease). Stanton Hill (Southwell). The Rev Pauline Hardy, Associate Priest, Raddive and Chackmore: to be Associate Priest, Nash w Thornton Beachamnton

Thornborough (Oxford). The Rev David Henley, Rector, St Mary and All Saims, Droxford, St Andrew, Meonstoke w Corhampon and w St Peter and St Paul, Exton (Portsmouth): to be also an Honorary Canon of Portsmouth

The Rev Clare Herbert: to be Assistant Curate, St Martin in the Fields (London).

The Rev Tony Jeynes, Vicar, St James, New Brighton, Wallasey: to be Rector, Holy Trinity, Tarleton (Blackburn). The Rev Hugh Kent, Warden and

(Oxford).

FLATSHARE

LARBLE ARCH, Ma

Windunder 16'

TICKETS

Chaplain of Harnhill Centre for Christian Healing (Gloucester): to be Rector, North Buckingham

Curate, Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea: now Curate, Rottingdean (Chichester). The Rev Graham Low, Curate, Good Shepherd, Brighton: to be Team Vicar, Langley Green, Ifield

The Rev Duncan Lloyd-James,

(Chichester). The Rev Nick Mansfield, Team Vicar, St Michael, Ditton, Widness. to be Priest-in-charge, St Luke and St Oswald, Preston (Blackburn). The Rev Andrew Manson-Brailsford, Curate, Torrisholme

(Blackburn): to be Vicar, St George, Brighton (Chickester). The Rev Andrew Mayes, Vicar, Saltdean (Chichester): now also an Honorary Canon of the diocese of the Niger Delta, Province of

The Rev Brian Mayne, Chaplain, HM Young Offenders Institute. Northallerton (York): to be Chaplain, Lancaster Farms, Lancaster The Rev Bill Merrington, Vicar, St

Paul's, Learnington Spa: to be also Rural Dean of Warwick and The Rev Rupert Moreton, Curate Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

(Dublin and Glendalough): to be Assistant Chaplain in Costa Blanca, Spain (Europe). The Rev Roger Packer, Vicar,St

Mary, Bridgwater and Chilton Trinity and Durleigh and Rural Dean of Bridgwater: to be also a Prebendary of Wells Cathedral (Bath and Wells).

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MARKSON PLANOS

I have spent my strength for nothing, and to no purpose. Yet my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God. Espiah 49 : 4 (REB) BIRTHS ARUP - On April 3rd, to Liz Gascoigne and Cilve Arup, a son, Toby John, a brother for Sophie and Rupert

CER - On 9th April 1996 Emma (née Cannon coket) and Andrew, a son

COLE-POWTAYN - To Ame-Marie (née Hascock) and Michael at The Matilda Hospital Hosp Koop on 11th April 1996. a daughter. Florice Amber, a sister for Arthre

ocean, to Diaria (née Leus) and Michard. a daughter, Hebe. WASZIG - On 7th March, to Mandy (née Hartley) and Mark, a son, Oliver John, a

ADGETT - On 30th March. to Emma (née Swiffen) and Jonathan, a deugister, Poppy Elizabeth Mary, a cister for

BIRTHS REBLE - On March 27th, to Sarah (née Bateson) and Nicholes, a son, Thomas Edward, a brother for

President, 1945

Jessea. Sam and Harriet. Deo Gratias. WCCLGAR - On April 9th 1996, to Mary-Claire (nés Mole) and Dermot, a son, Edward Benedict Finn, a brother for Isabel.

DEATHS BUPGETT - Maurice Hasvell died on Easter Sunday aged 95 years. Devoted husband of the last End. dearty loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service a City father and grandramer.
Funeral Service at
Cambridge West Chapel.
Cambridge West Chapel.
Cam Theaday 16th April 1996
at 2.30 ym. Floral tributes
may be sent to Demis Easter
Funeral Service, The Lodge,
St. Iwas.

Puneral bervior. St Broad Leas. St Cambe.

ourse, simily flowers only, depositors to St Columbe's Hospice, Ethiology,
Mad - Ethel suddenly
and very peachtly or April
10th 1996 at Field House,
Flect Hargais in her 104th
year. Widow of Stanley
English M.C., Mother of
Michael, Grandmother and
Grand-Grandmother, Flueral Great-Grandmother. Funeras service at All Salants Claurch. Holbeach at 2.30 pm on Thursday 18th April. followed by private cremation. Family flowers

only, but donations welcomed for turkesp of the GARDNER - J.A.C. OR Mary's Hospital.

Portsmouth. A Regulem
Mass will be held on Friday
19th April at 5t Faith's
Church, Haveted at 11 am.
Enquiries to Carrell's
Founcial Service. bei: (01705)
486183.

MARIESWOTTH - Helen (née Loch) on 8th April suddenly but peacefully aged 95. Beloved wife of the late The Beloved wife of the late The Hon. Eric Harmsworth and dear mother of Hermione and Dueline and supmother to Tom and Madekines a much loved grandmother. Funeral at St. Anne's. Kow Green, Thurstay 18th Agril at 11.15 am followed by private cremation. Flowers and enoughten to F.W. Peine. 468 Chiswick High Read, tel: (0181) 994-0086 or described to The Royal Scot. donations to The Royal Scot Benevolent Society, The Castle, Edinburgh, EH1 2YT.

MARVEY-BAREY - On April 9th 1996 after a short imees, Joan, sadiy missed by husband Alec and son Rhoddy. Funeral private, No flowers pleases. Donafron, if desired, for the RAF Benevolent Fund, may be sent to W. Jones and Son, Funeral Directors, Brillstord, Derbyshire, DEG 3DA. HIGGENS

HIGGENS
Commander Anthony C.E.
Commander Anthony C.E.
Royal Navy aged 85 years
husband of Erica. Very
peacetaly on 9th April 1996
th Harlow Houghal after a
long illness. Service at 65.
Many the Virgin. Sheering.
an Thursday 18th April at
11.15 am followed by
urivale cremation. Family
flowers only. Domations to
Sheering P.C.C. c/o the
Funeral Directory Daniel
Robinson & Sons Lid., Wych
Elm. Harlow. bd. (01279)
425990. KURK - Albert M.B.E., FIOP,

GHR - Albert M.B.E., FIGP, died peacefully on April 4th aged 101 in the Whitshake Nursing Home, dearly level father of Dorothy and Howard, grandfather and great-grandfather. Former Technical Secretary, Bpiffrom 1945 to 1962.

Bartram) passed away peacefully on 7th April 1996. Much loved wife of Bill. Hazel's funeral will take place on Tuesday 16th April at Putney Vale Crematicium, arreira bester at Putney Vale
Crematurium, service begins
at 12.46 pm. For those
wishing to send floral
tributes please send to
Evershed Brothers Lid... 120
Wandsworth High Street.
London SW18 4JP by 11 am
on 16th April. RORTHEY - Thomas Shield.
Suddenly at home on April
Sth. Fumeral at Putpay Vale
Crematorium on Thursday.
April 18th. at 11.30 am.
Flowers to Cheises Fumeral
Directors. 2600 Futham
Road, London SW10 9EL
(0171 362 0008). Any
doubtions to British Disbette.
Association, 10 Queen Anne
Street, London Wild (SE). OLIVER - ABert Ernest Victor "Ollie" on April 7th peacefully. Funeral at Carisichurch. Woking. Burney on Wednesday April 17th at 2 pm.

OSMOD - Joan. Died peacefully on 11th April aged 93. Devoted wife of the last Brigodier 93. Comond. beloved mother of Sate, and wonderful Grano to Zoe and Robin and mother-la-law to Norma. Service at Aldershot Crematorium on Womasday 17th April at 4 pm. Family Howers only. but denselions to the Royal National Institute for the Deaf. PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE

PLEY DELL-BOUVERIE
Past. died pascensity at her
home in Beautien on 10th
April 1996 aged 101.
Despiter of Major Edward
Buttington Craice and widow
of John, 2nd Lord Montage
of Beautieu, and of Captain
the Hon. Edward Pleydell-Bouverie. Royal Navy, Muchloved mother of Anne,
Caroline. Edward, Marry
Cigre and Robin. Loving
grandchildran and 25 greatgrandchistes and 25 great-grandchildren. Family funeral on Monday 15th April at Beautieu Abbey Church. 3 pm. No 56 was please but donations to Besulieu Abbey Church Public Fund, Bendieu, 5042 72M. A Memorial 72M. A Memorial 7ZN. A Memoria Thanksplving Service will be beld at Bestilley Abber

at 3 pm.

PROBIN - John. loving father
and grandfafter of Peter.
Nick. Cheryl. Matthew and
Jayson and brother of
Barbara and Jenniter, passed
away peacefully on 8th April
at home in Horsham, Sussex.
Will sadily be missed by sel
his family and friends.
Sorvice at Southwater Perish
Church. Thursday 18th
April at 12.15 pm.

DEATHS SAVAGE - Kerrigan Andrew (Kes) of Searconsheld, Burks., aged 26 tragically (ded in a motor accident in Kenya on 5th April 1996. Beloved younger on of Margaret and Malcolm. dear brother to Jon., and Julie and good friend to so many. Please thate your nemories of this unique and very special person by contacting his family. For arrangements please contact H.C. Grimstend (P/D) on (01499) 672656. All his many friends are welcome. No flowers please but donaflons to the "Bartlays Bank plc. 64 Lombard Street. London ECSP 3AH.

STHEOGRAP - On Saturday.

BUSIN SAIL.

BINGSHOHDS - On Saturday

March SOth. Massica, dearly

loved eldest daughter of the
late Mr and Mrs R.C.

Stummends of Court Lodge,

Fawkham. Kent. Dearly loved husband of Madaine, much loved father of Michael and Sarah, Dear son of the late James Rupert Tildaley and the Late Honourable Gwendoline Brooks, also a dear son-in-law of Cacil and by Ward. Further details contact L. Futcher Funeral Directors. (01284) 784049.

TURNER - On Monday Sth April 1996, peacetully in her sleep at St Anne's Home. Cliffen, Co. Galway. Eire. Helen Mary wife of the late of the Charles of the Contact of the Proposition of the State of Muli, Scotland, Funeral, Service 1 plu on Monday. 15th April at Christchaurch. Chiffen, followed by burint at, St Thomse' Church, Moyard. Co. Galway. Family flowers only. Will be sadly missed by her many friends for her kindness. Donations to St Anne's Home. Cliffen, Co. Galway. Eire.

Church on Friday 17th May MEMORIAL SERVICES ROSE - On April 8th 1996. Aftert husband of Judge and father of Suzanne. Jonathan and Jeremy and the late

Pawkham. Kest. Til.DS-LEY - Suddenly at home on 8th April David: Marshall aged 59 years. Dearty loved husband of Madatine, much loved father

DICK - Cocilia Rachel Osse Buston). A Celebration of the fife of Cecilia Dick will be held at Wolfson College. Linion Road. Oxford on Saturday 20th April 1996 at 3.30 pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICES RÓBIRSON - Desmis J Robinson, Past Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Besignaniess, Memorial Service, Guild Church of St Margaret Patten, Essichesp, London ECS on Tuesday, April 23rd at Iwelve noon. LEGAL NOTICES B CLARKE & SONS LIMITED On Liquidation) The insolvincy Act 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY CEVEN NO. 1 mg. m. Materior Representation FEA of Poppleton & Assistay, 4 Charterboun Square, London, ECIM GEN was remained Liquidator of the said

appointed Liquidator of the said Complete by the Recebers and Credition on 1st March 1996. M.B. DORRENGTON, Liquidator, Licey & Lincoln Lingh The headward Act and Roles 1986 SECOND AND FRAL NO Notice is hereby given the creditors of the short of company, which is being creditors of the above named company, which is being volum-harify wound up, are recepted, on or bufers 10 Mey 1995 in sund in their full Christian and surnames, that satisfaces and descriptions, that particulars of their delay of their claims and advances of main descriptions of their delay and the rames and advances of main land Minner Chains, and the rames and advances of main land Minner Chains, and the rames and advances of the tandersigned N Minner Chains, and the rames and advances of the said of the control of the said of the said of the control of the said of the control of the said of the control of the said of the said

N. MILLAR. LICUMDATOR.

NOTICE OF 998 MERTING

NOTICE OF 998 MERTING

ROSE SHEETING NOTICE

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and a Schooling for Divise Chin A copy of the draft School he children by seeding for division he children by seeding the district School he districted activities to \$3 - 100000, \$8710' 4000 the above reference to the co

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AIR COMMODORE A. H. McM. HELY

Air Commodore A. H. McM. Hely, CB. OBE, died on March 21 aged 87. He was born on February 16, 1909.

UNIVERSALLY known as "Tim". A. H. McM. Hely was an admired supply officer in the Royal Air Force, in which he served for 30 years. He was on the staff of Lord Louis Mountbatten at Supreme Allied Command, South-East Asia, during the latter part of the Second World War, and towards the end of his career became an ADC to the Oueen.

His particular sphere of expertise was in the movement of explosives, a speciality that was of the utmost importance after war broke out and munitions of all sorts were being produced in vast quantities, and had to he brought in safety from the factories to the squadrons which needed them. in the postwar period Hely had overall responsibility for the task of supervising the dispersal or storage of the fearsome arsenal of bombs, rockets, gun ammunition and other explosives which had been built up by the RAF during the war. (Many of the 1.000lb bombs used by the RAF in the Falklands War of 1982 were, in fact of wartime manufacture, and had to be brought out of storage where they had lain since being decommissioned after 1945. Equipped to be laser-guided. these vintage weapons proved highly effective against the Stanley runway and other targets.)

Arthur Hubert McMath Hely was born in Southsea into a naval family. He grew up in New Zealand between the wars, completing his education at Auckland University. Despite opposi-tion from his father, a distinguished naval officer in the dashing Beatty tradition who saw no future for an independent air force, he set his heart on joining the RAF. He worked his passage home on a Chinese collier in 1932, only to find on arrival in Britain that he had missed the deadline for applying for a permanent commission by three months.

Nothing daunted, he joined the Reserve, and completed the flying training necessary to qualify for his wings". During this time the Air Ministry announced that four permanent commissions were to be awarded



by competitive examination, and he came top of 300 entrants. He was granted a permanent commission in the Equipment (now the Supply) Branch of the RAF, one month before the completion of the 12 months' Reserve service that would have qualified him for his flying badge, on which he had pinned his hopes. Despite this disappointment, his loyalty and devotion to the service never wavered, and his professionalism rapidly developed until he was among the most promis-ing junior officers of his branch.

He undertook and completed a tour in Iraq shortly before the outbreak of war in 1939. After specialising in the storage and movement of explosives he spent the next three years, interrupted by the Staff College course in 1942. either actively engaged in explosives duties or instructing others to his own high standards. In 1944 he was made acting group captain, the youngest of that rank in his branch of the RAF, and posted to the logistics side of Lord Mountbatten's headquarters. There he remained until the end of the war. being appointed OBE in 1945.

He then moved on to serve the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Australia, again concentrating on logistics and working closely with the Allied Commission reconstructing Japan. He returned to Britain in 1948 and, after completing the Joint Services Staff College course. was promoted permanent group cap-tain and posted to Wickenby in Lincolnshire. This (with 14 outstations) was responsible for the storage and safe disposal of thousands of tons of surplus munitions which had been

ordered by the RAI during the war. It was a colossal and delicate task involving weaponry ranging from the awesome 22,000th Grand Slam - the heaviest bomb ever dropped in unger by the RAF -- down to to 303 animunition for rifles and gun turrets, and Very carridges for signafling.

Hely moved on from there, first to Headquarters 42 Group as Senior Air Staff Officer, and then, in turn, to Headquarters Fighter Command and Headquarters Far East Air Force in Changi, Singapore, each time as Senior Equipment Staff Officer. In 1957 he was made ADC to the Queen, a post he held until confirmed in the rank of air commodore in 1050.

He again returned home in 1958, to the Air Ministry, and then to Headquarters Maintenance Command in Andover as Air Commodore Operations, a post he held until he retired in 1964. In 1962 he was appointed CB.

Retirement led to no slackening of appetite for work or loss of interest in all that went on around him. Above all, he was an enthusiastic and accomplished sportsman, and this interest continued to his death. He had represented Auckland University at boxing and rugby, and toured Fiji with the University XV in 1932. When he returned home, he continued to play rughy, regularly appearing for Blackheath, and was a noted cricketer for service and local teams, maintaining a deadly wrist spin until he had to refire to the sidelines and become an equally keen spectator.

Pre-eminent among his interests were golf, which he continued to play until the last few years, and sailing. It was while on the Reserve, and serving as skipper on the yacht Ailsa, belonging to Serjeant A.M. Sullivan tthe barrister who had defended Sir Roger Casement at his treason trial in 1910) that he met his future wife. Laura, the Serjeant's sixth daughter. As the skipper he was always addressed as "Hely" and to his death Laura always called him just that - to the amusement of all who knew him. They married in 1935, celebrating their diamond wedding last year.

Hely died peacefully, following an accidental fall. He is survived by his wife Laura, two sons and two

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JASPER **WESTON-DAVIES**

Lieutenant-Colonel Jasper Weston-Davies author, died on April 7 aged 87. He was born on February 25, 1909

WRITING under the nom de plume of Berkley Mather, Jasper Weston-Davies scripted such long-running television series of the 1950s and 1960s as Tales From Sono, New Rumps for Old and As I Was Saying. His central character, Inspector Charlesworth, played first by Stratford Johns and later by Wensley Pithey, was known to thousands of devoted viewers as he sleuthed his way through Sono, Weston-Davies was a master of his art. excelling in the dialogue of the

He also wrote radio dramas, film scripts - he had a hand in the first James Bond film Dr No - more than a hundred short stories and 15 novels, one of which. The Gold of Malabar, though first published in 1967, is soon to be filmed. Other nevels included The Achilles Affair, The Pass Beyond Kushmir, The Memsahib, Snowline, and The White Dacoit. These were mostly set in India and the Far-East, where Weston-Davies had spent most of his life, and

barrack room and Soho pub.

were packed with local colour. Born in Gloucester, John Evan Weston-Davies was the youngest son of a family from North Wales. After an unhappy early childhood, of which he seldom spoke, he and his family moved to Australia. Two of his brothers were killed in the First World War and, after the death also of his father, the remaining family was looked after by the eldest brother Wynne, who had established a successful advertising agency in Sydney. Weston-Davies was educated

Paramatta. After compulsory military service, he was enrolled to read medicine, the family profession, at Sydney University, but a wanderlust soon took over. He left Australia, travelling the world on cargo ships before reaching England during the Depression. There was little work for a penniless colonial with no qualifications other than the

Carl Stokes, former

of cancer in Cleveland.

Ohio, on April 4 aged 68.

He was born in the same

city on June 21. 1927.

former American President.

What is more, he had done so

in a city whose population was

two-thirds white. Although

others were soon to follow in his wake. Stokes's achieve-

ment stood out as a landmark

in the political emancipation

His origins had been un-

of the black man in America.

years in Germany.

at the King's School.



ability to ride a horse. Weston-Davies, in desperation, enlisted in the ranks in the Royal Horse Artillery, and after hasic training in Woolwich was posted to the Broken Wheel Troop at Larkhill, Later, after failing to gain a commission, he applied for a posting to the Indian Army.

He disembarked in Karachi in 1934 and spent the next 13 years in India and Burma. By the time of the outbreak of the Second World War, he was a sergeam in the Indian Army Ordnance Corps. He was among the first draft to be sent to Iraq with Piforce, under then Brigadier "Bill" Slim, and he remained with the 14th Corps and 14th Army for the rest of the war. By 1945 he was an acting lieutenant-colonel who had been mentioned in dispatches. He was one of the few Indian Army officers successfully to transfer to the British Army after Independence and he served until 1959

in the Royal Artillery. Weston-Davies had always had an urge to write and had, in fact, published a number of short stories in the Bystander and other Indian publications before the war. He resumed writing after it and successfully sold to the BBC his first radio play, written with the aid of a do-it-yourself manual. As moonlighting was not offi-cially permitted in the Army he used a pseudonym concocted from the names of the Berkeley Grill (he mis-spelt it) and Mathers, the chemist in Pouna. After a final tour as commandant of the base at Limassol during the Cyprus troubles of the 1950s, he sent in

his papers and started his second career as a full-time writer.

His first venture into films came in 1960 when the first James Bond film Dr No was in preparation. Ian Fleming had vetoed script after script and at last he was asked to suggest a writer himself. Fleming had never met Mather, but had recently given a glowing review to his second book The Pass Beyond Kashmir, and he chose him.

Mather had at that time never read a Bond book, a hahit which he did not subsequently break. He took Richard Maibaum's earlier script and, largely by rewriting the dialogue, transformed it from a serious spy thriller into a semi-spoof.

Fleming approved it but as the premiere approached the producers grew nervous. No one knew how the public would react to what amounted to a send-up. But the result was a triumph which set the tone for the highly successful series of films which followed. Dr No, however, is still regarded by aficionados as the best of the series. Unwisely, Mather refused a percentage deal and was paid a flat fee for

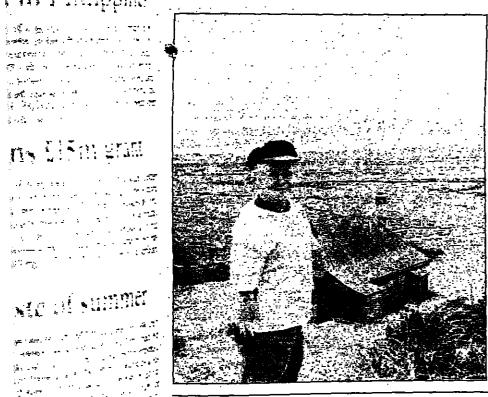
the script.

Although he subsequently worked on both Goldfinger and From Russia With Love in which he had a walk-on part (he proudly maintained his Equity membership for the rest of his life) - he was not happy adapting other people's work or using characters that he had not himself created. It was for this reason that he contributed only a few early scripts to The Avengers series and refused many invitations to collaborate in other popular television series of the time.

He wrote the original screenplay for To Bury Caesar, which featured one of the few television performances by Jack Hawkins. He was presented with a Special Merit Award for services to television drama by the Crime Writers Association, of which he was at one time chairman.

Jasper Weston-Davies married in 1938 Kay Jones. She predeceased him in 1991. He is survived by their two sons. their daughter having died in infancy.

DR SIR WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, Bt



FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

MANY Delly low con th. 0181 429 2900. Viss/ 198. ABTA 90688. ATOL

Dr Sir William Shakespeare. Bt. physician, died after heart surgery on March 12 aged 68. He was born on October 12, 1927.

BILL SHAKESPEARE'S small size was first seen by strangers with surprise and, perhaps, pity - he was achondroplasiae. But it was as quickly disregarded by them as it had been by himself. His tiny physique was eclipsed by his presence. Intelligence, humour and kindliness were reflected in his strong, handsome face.

William Geoffrey Shakespeare was, ironically, the sonof the strikingly tall and goodlooking Sir Geoffrey Shakespeare, the 1st Baronet, Liberal MP and wartime minister. When he was a small boy, friends wondered what sort of life he could expect. They need not have worried because Bill himself did not. or at least never appeared to.

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Accepting his handicap, he pressed ahead into a full. active and happy life. He met the problem head-on: at Clare College, Cambridge, where he went after Radley, he read Natural Sciences before moving into medicine.

At St George's Hospital,

ly because he felt his size might make him more acceptable to children as a doctor. He led a normal student life and became an enthusiast for rowing, coxing the St George's VIII, as he had that at Clare. At the hospital he met and fell in love with Sue Rattel, a tall and beautiful young woman who found his size an irrelevance, except in illuminating his determination. They announced their engagement on the 400th anniversary of the birth of his namesake, the playwright; they were married

Shakespeare's medical career took him through sev-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J and T are pieseed to approprie that they have fallen helpsteeply and hrevereibly in love; a state which has induced in tinchar-acteristically dreamy and ethe-rial approach to life on their part. They offer no apologies for their historians and hope that their priends and collegues (and Harrods between restair-rand will usake allowances for their prietimal between the re-taint will usake allowances for their prietimal between the re-all, its not evely day that a tal-tic gives birth to the roted

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Kidney

eral paediatric appointments in the St George's group, after which he moved to Canada and the United States, where he worked at the Boston Children's Hospital, More than a year as an assistant general practitioner in Barbados marked the end of his London, he decided to work abroad and he returned specialise in paediatries, part-to settle in Aylesbury as a general practitioner in 1968. When illness forced his early retirement in 1986, he continued part-time medical work in Buckinghamshire.

Turning his own disability

to practical advantage, he became national vice-president of the Physically Handicapped and Able-Bodied Society in 1977 and of the Restricted Growth Association from 1982. He was a member of Lord Snowdon's working party into the integration of the handicapped from 1974 to 1976. He frequently visited his old school, talking to the boys about his work as a doctor. The theatre and sport were

two of his enthusiasms. He was appointed a trustee of the Shakespeare Globe Trust in 1992 and took part in the burial of a time capsule on the anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday in 1993. He was a member of the MCC, Henley Royal Regatta and the Leander Club. Hulidays were often spent in northwest Norfolk. where he latterly owned a cortage in Nelson's village of Burnham Thorpe, and was a popular visitor to the village pub. named after the admiral. It was an appropriate coincidence that, when he was taken ill early this year on hoard a ship in the North Sea. the RAF helicopter pilot who flew him ashore to hospital was the son of Norfolk friends. He appeared to make a good

died. It was not only the handicapped who found his life an inspiration. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

recovery after heart surgery but suffered a relapse and

CARL STOKES Mayor of Cleveland, died THE result of the 1967 mayoral election in Cleveland, Ohio. was scarcely believable. Carl Stokes, the great-grandson of a slave, had beaten Seth C. Taft, the grandson of a

promising. Carl Burton Stokes, the son of a laundry Cleveland. Handsome and charismatworker, was raised by his mother in a public housing project for the poor this father had died when he was two). He dropped out of high school in 1944 and worked briefly in a foundry before joining the US Army and serving for two

On demobilisation, Stokes went back to school and then to university as a psychology major. Again, he failed to stay the course and left college to become an enforcement agent with the Ohio State Department of Liquor Control, getting involved in several gun battles before deciding - after three years - that education might not be such a bad idea. This time he went to the University of Minnesota and

gained a law degree. He was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1957 and was appointed an assistant city prosecutor in

ic. Stokes soon began to play a part in local politics. In 1962 he became the first black Democrat to be elected to the Ohio legislature, standing in a constituency which was 86 per cent white and serving three consecutive terms. In 1965, with racial conflict

even north of the Mason-Dixon Line never far below the surface. Stokes was given little chance when he ran for Mayor of Cleveland as an independent. However, he failed by a mere 2500 votes. Rioting broke out in Cleveland the following year, sparked by rising poverty among blacks and resentment against a hostile white police force. Stokes, with the tacit support of Mar-

tin Luther King, who launched a voter registration drive, appealed for calm and announced that he would run again - this time as an official Democrat. He won the primary election over two white Democrats, and with the sup-port of Cleveland's major newspapers went on to score a decisive victory over his Re-

publican opponent. Taft. In his two terms as Mayor. Stokes proved to be a moderate, bringing blacks into City Hall and doing his best to reorganise the police force and alleviate poverty in the city. He was praised for his handling of disturbances in 1968 when a police patrol was ambushed by armed black nationalists, resulting in the death of three policemen and six civilians. The incident, however, did much to damage his attempts to bring racial unity to Cleveland. "The aftermath of that night was to haunt and colour every aspect of my administration for the

next three years," he wrote. Stokes went on to become the first black anchorman of a New York television station in 1972, and from 1983 to 1994 was a municipal judge in Cleveland. He was appointed Ambassador to the Seychelles by President Clinton last year, but had to take leave of absence after being diagnosed with cancer of the oesophagus.

Carl Stokes was twice married and divorced. He is survived by his third wife, Raija, and by two sons and two daughters.

HADRIAN'S WALL PROTESTS AGAINST **QUARRY PLAN**

The news that extensive quarrying is contemplated near the Roman Wall in Northumberland, to the detriment alike of the finest stretch of that great monument and of its characteristic setting, has been received with wide-spread surprise and indignation . . .

The protests have followed promptly upon the announcement of the projected enterprise in The Times vesterday, and there is general agreement that prompt action is necessary. This is by no means the only instance of a state of affairs which points to a need for new legislation. Early British earthworks and other monuments on the headland of Penmaen-mawr are being blotted out by quarrying operations . . .

" VANDALISM " FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTI

HULL APRIL II Strong protest was raised at the concluding strong princis was raised at the concluding sestion of the Classical Association at Hull University College this morning against the threatened spoliation by quarrying of the Housesteads section of Hadrian's Wall.

PROFESSOR WIGHT DUFF, of Armstrong College, Newcastle, who presided, referred to the report in The Times of to-day to the threat to the

ON THIS DAY April 12, 1930

Protests against the "barbarity" of quarrying near Hadrian's Wall continued to fill columns of the paper for many

weeks.

Roman Wall, and to the leading article on the subject in the same paper. He said that a very extensive project had been launched for quarrying along the line of the best stretch of the Roman Wall just at the very point where the Wall fiself was most interesting. The idea of the company which was to work the quarties was to turn out some hundreds of thousands of tons each year. It was quite true that they would probably not be able to knock down a bit of the Wall directly, because the Wall had been scheduled as an Ancient Monu-ment, but they would under the present law be able to work up to within a very short space of the actual position of the Wall. That was a piece of the

most unmitigated vandalism.

CANON RICHARDS, of Durham, moved:——

the proposal to institute extensive quarrying in the immediate neighbourhood of the best preserved section of the Roman Wall, protests against such vandalism, and calls on the Government to take immediate action to save our greatest Ancient Monument from being distigured and rendered well nigh inaccessible.

He said it was with feelings of indignation and horror that they read about that great commercial scheme, and they were devoutly thankful that The Times thought the subject sufficiently important to devote to it a short leading article. It was necessary to take action at once, because that commercial scheme was launched already. Arrangements had been made for the removal of the stone by rail and by ship. There were hundreds of miles of good stone to be obtained in almost any portion of the Pennine Range. There was only one Roman Wall, there was only one part of it which was almost perfectly preserved, but that was the part assailed to this project. by this project. There was indeed reason enough for protest. The exploration of the Roman Wall had reached a stage at which attention was concentrated not so much on the line of the Wall as on the ground in its immediate vicinity. Within a few miles south of the Wall lay the point to which the attention of the excavators was at present directed. There had long been quarrying on a small scale, not in itself desirable, but sufficient for local needs, along the easterly section of the Wall. Let them try to do all they could to move all who could bring influence to bear to prevent that irreparable blow to the Wall itself...

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Israeli raid may delay peace talks

At least five people were killed when Israeli helicopter gunships fired rockets into the southern suburbs of Beirut in a revenge attack against Hezbollah guerrillas, its first on the Lebanese capital for 14 years.

The attacks appear likely to delay the next stage of the Middle East peace process: agreement between Syria and Israel. The attacks may well give Damascus the excuse to delay

Seven-year-old pilot crashes

A seven-year-old girl who was attempting to fly across America was killed when her single-engined Cessna crashed. Jessica Dubroff died instantly when the plane hit the ground soon after it had taken off in bad weather in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Her father and an instructor also died......... Page I

Liner impounded

impounded the Royal Viking Sun cruise liner as a bargaining counter in its dispute with Cunard over damage to a protected coral reef....

Labour in centre

Labour has now become the party of the centre, speaking for the mainstream majority. Tony Blair said in America as he sought to show that his party had transformed itself and was now ready for office Pages L 9

Royal separation

Marina Mowatt, daughter of Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy and a cousin of the Queen: has separated from her husband after six years of marriage..... ... Pages I. 3

Teacher plan

Labour plans to attract middleaged businessmen into teaching were criticised by the profession for failing to tackle an impending recruitment crisisPage 2

Cattle slaughter

Plans to kill up to 30,000 cattle a week are to be announced by the Government next week in the first stage of a rescue package for the beef industry ...

Bank bomber hunt

Lists of disgruntled customers and former staff were being checked by police in the search for

Car blacklist

The Egyptian Government has Cars produced by traditional British manufacturers such as Ford and Vauxhall are rated among the worst in an authoritative survey on customer satisfaction ..

Allowed to die

Doctors in Scotland who stop treating coma patients regarded as incapable of recovery, allowing them to die, will not face criminal

Carbon from space

Carbon found in a huge crater in Canada made by a meteorite nearly two billion years ago strengthens the idea that the chemicals of life arrived on Earth from outer space..Page 8

UN condemned

One of the first Britons to be evacuated from Monrovia condemned the United Nations for refusing to help her when her lifePage il was in danger

Airport deaths

At least 15 people were reported killed and more than 100 injured when a fire broke out in a flower shop at Düsseldorf international airport. . Page II

Smuggler attack

A helicopter pursuit of a drugrunning power boat racing for the Spanish coast ended when the helicopter crashed, killing a Civil Guard. The smugglers threw an the Barclays bomber Page 5 oar into the tail rotor Page 12

Vitamin experiment to cure crime

Toung offenders are to be given vitamin pills in a pilot project aimed at changing their anti-social behaviour. More than a hundred volunteers will take part in the six-month experiment at Aylesbury young offender institution which it is hoped will show that a change of diet can improve mental attitude and reduce aggression ..



Vera Hubalek, a German student, trying on a costume from Lucrezia Borgia at a sale by the Royal Opera House yesterday

BUSINESS

Rentokil battle: BET rejected an increased takeover attempt from Rentokil which topped its old £1.9 billion bid with a £2.1 billion ... Page 21

Rail shares: Investors in the £1.8 billion Railtrack flotation will be entitled to discounts on their second payments if they hold on to their shares for more than a .. Page 21

House prices: A steady rise has helped lift nearly 300,000 people out of negative equity in the first three months and there are signs that the housing market is continuing to improvePage 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 23.2 to 3744.2. Sterling fell to 83.6 after falls from \$1.5168 to \$1.5137 and DM2.2735 to DM2.2719.....Page 24

Rugby union: Leading clubs appealed to the Rugby Football Union

president, Bill Bishop, to break the deadlock between them and the governing body.... Page 40 Golf: David Gilford, of England,

held an early lead in the sixtieth Masters tournament in Augusta, only to slip back when he fourputted at the 16th.... Page 40 Football: Mick McCarthy, the Republic of Ireland manager, has been banned from receiving FA

two were sold for nearly six times their face value last year .. Page 40 Rugby league: Mike Ford, the former Great Britain scrum half, has been left out by Warrington and the club has agreed to transfer him to

.... Page 36

Wakefield Trinity

Cup final tickets for 10 years after

Fight at the opera: Music promoter Raymond Gubbay, who staged La Bohème at the Albert Hall, accuses The Times's opera critic Rodney Milnes of elitism. Milnes responds with a robust attack on Gubbay's production standardsPage 29 Menuhin party: Public celebrations for Lord Menuhin's eightieth birthday, later this month, have begun with a British tour by the Warsaw Sinfonia, the orchestra that he founded and conducts Page 29 Night of Day: A new musical based

on the life and music of the Fifties singer Doris Day has opened in London.. Pop on Friday: David Sinclair on

Lionel Richie and Cocteau Twins: Caitlin Moran on the strange sounds of Strangelove Page 31

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ WANING STARS Kate Muir on the death of haute cuisine. and the rise of the baby bistro

LIFE WITH TONY Part one of Anatole Kaletsky's series on how Britain would change under Labour

Nazi hunter: Simon Wiesenthal. whose messianic mission is to ensure that no Nazi murderer will be allowed to die in peace, talks to Valerie Grove.....

Pop at home: Michael Binyon describes life with a 21-year-old son en route to becoming a rock ..Page 14

Sky-high ambition: Norris McWhirter looks at the often tragic combination of pushy parents and precocious children...... Page 14 The thighs have it: Why have more column inches been devoted to the Princess of Wales's cellulite than to. say, Michael Heseltine's dandruff?.

EDUCATION

Richer language: Trevor McDonald, the newsreader on how, as chairman of the Better English Campaign, he will aim to improve spoken and written English among the younger generation Page 33 A don's life: With the rapid growth in student numbers, teachers are finding that their research time is being marginalised.....Page 33

THE PAPERS

Liberia's fragile peace has shattered, loosing again one of Afruica's most frightful conflicts and forcing an exodus of missionaries, educators and relief workers who were rebuilding the nation after its civil war - Los Angeles | airline "bumping"....

Preview: The excuse for Europash

is that while fully living up to itsname, it never asks to be taken seriously (Channel 4. 11.30pm) Review: Lynne Truss finds Ellington: indescribably dullPage 39

ins and outs of Emu

British must rule out plans by the European Commission or by any EU government to introduce controls over European economies which stay out of monetary union

Rock solid

The problems of Gibraltar can be addressed only with a cool head; it is no good for Spain to stamp its

Duets and duels

Operatic duels are not restricted to Eugene Onegin and one does not have to go to Bayreuth to see love and power contend for ... Page 17

BERNARD LEVIN

It seems that hatred is a very powerful word, not to be used lightly or without careful thought, even by the truly wronged. After all, the Prayer Book asks delivery from ... hypocrisy, envy, hatred and malice . . . "....

PHILIP HOWARD

From the beginning The Times has always covered the Classical Association, familiarly known as the Class Ass. It was even launched by a letter to the Editor from Professor J.P. Postgate of Cambridge. Its first meeting was allocated two full columns in our newspaper, which then had only eight columns for Page 16

RICHARD WEST

The collapse of Liberia brings to an end the old dream of generations of Africans exiled by slavery in America, of going back to live in the country of their ancestors . Page 16

Vice-Admiral John Bulkeley USN: Donald Adams, opera sing (er; William Shakespeare,

LITES

Teaching standards and decline in written English: Isabelle Huppert at the National Theatre; Christianity in politics; a new Royal Yacht;

💥 Sunny

Sunny interval

Cloudy

Orizzle

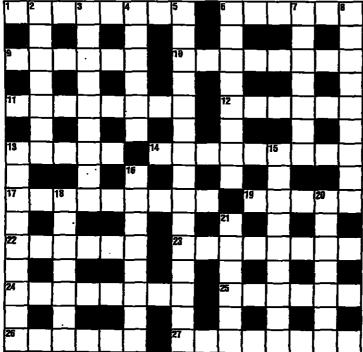
Overcas Rain

🛖 Lightning

Hail 🚒

Snow 13 Temperatu (Celsius)

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,140



ACROSS

- I Hopeless cricket side all out
- except this one (8). 6 Incentive for soldiers to get back in the wagon (6).
- 10 Dispose of little girl, creating lasting ill-will (8). How abnormally one died within such a book! (8).

9 Puts up with the black pieces (6).

- 12 Light reading often required for this science subject? (6). 13 Stretch to see bird (5).
- 14 Copy original article about old record (9) 17 Like Coleridge's war-prophesying voices from Lancaster, possibly
- 19 Take cocaine, or a small whisky. perhaps (5). 22 Defer case to bring in qualified

Solution to Puzzle No 20,139

TOEC LNCURSION

- 23 Demanding and getting payment
- 24 Cos? Well, a different sort of salad 25 Fierce female type of ant (6).
- 26 Rope gets a trial workout (6).
- 27 Desire to be making money after completion of study (8).

- 2 Curl looking odd on woman's dog
- 3 Wooden steps? (4-5). 4 Record in which bad behaviour is going down (6).
- 5 Let cat out of bag, and release animals? (4,3,4,4). 6 Pet loves to be in the light (8).
- 7 Take top off container and tip up for wine (7).
- 8 Unable to stay, moved instanter 13 Sort of studies taking school-

children one term, almost (9).

- 15 Restrict movement of prison transport? (9). 16 Present permit to enter small country (8).
- 18 One who clumsily makes iced drink? (7). 20 Feeble analysis (3-4).
- 21 Every year, a chap turned up in hat (6).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

vees was a Sm Latin & C Stropp. Heraids & Words Central Midlands Linus & Humberside Dyled & Powys Gwynedd & Clwyd . N W England W & S Yons & Dales N E England Cumbra & Lake District. SW Scotland .

AA ROADWATCH

HOURS OF DARKNESS Sun rises: 6.11 am Moon sets 1.29 pm New Moon April 17 London 7.53 pm to 6.09 am Bristol 8.02 pm to 6.19 am Edinburgh 8.14 pm to 6.19 a

FORECAST

General: eastemmost parts will be bright and dry, otherwise England and Wales will be cloudy and wet. East and northeast Scotland may have the odd wintry shower. Elsewhere, along with Northern Ireland, it will be wet with sleet or snow over hills.

□ London, SE England: patchy drizzle at first, perhaps persistent later. Wind east, moderate. Noticeably colder. Max 8C (46F).
□ E Anglia, E England, NE England, Borders: suriny intervals. Wind east or controlled the moderate of the patch of the controlled the second page 1.

east or southeast, moderate or fresh. Feeling bitterly cold. Max 7C (45F).

Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland:

times. Wind southeast, moderate of fresh, light later. Max 10C (50F). W Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Central N, SW Scotland, Glasnow Armelic SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyli: cloudy and wet, heavy rain in places. Wind southeast, becoming fresh or

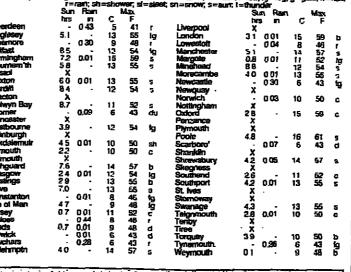
wind southeast, becoming fresh or strong. Max 8C (46F).

| Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shettland: bright or sunny intervals, isolated wintry showers.
Wind southeast, fresh or strong.
Feeling bitterly cold. Max 6C (43F).

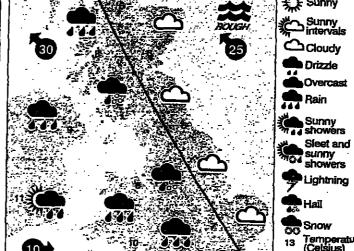
Central Highlands, NW Scotland: some rain or snow. Wind southeast, fresh or strong. Max 8C (46F).

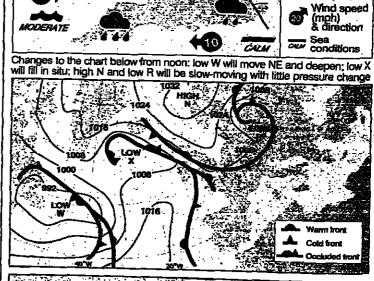
Outlook: rain in the West dying out. Bright in the East. Cold.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



ABROAD 28 82 c c 22 72 s 11 52 c c 22 72 s 31 88 ! 16 61 s 18 64 c X 66 1 57 0 s 14 57 ! X C phagr Dublin Dubrow Faro Florence Frenkfur Funchel Geneva Gbratta Helsinki Heng K Inrabrok Istanbul Jeddah Jo'burg Karachi L Angels L Palmas Le Tquat Liebon Locamo Lucembo Lucembo Lucembo X 17 63 c 20 68 a 11 52 c 16 61 s 13 55 (11 52 (8 46 r 16 61 s 15 59 c





HIGH TIDES AM 8.01 7.58 0.57 5.25 1.03 Abordisers
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Falmouth
Greenock
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kind's Lynn 5:42 5:06 107 6:32 6:23 5:58 1:10 11:08 6:31

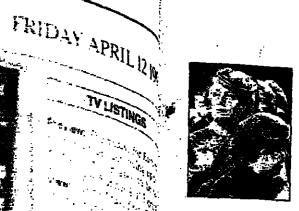
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or see your travel agent.





ins and outs of En

ARTS 29-31

Promoter and critic clash in the great Bohème debate



EDUCATION 33

Have I got news for you, says Trevor McDonald



SPORT 34-40

Australians trying to set new rules for life in London

TELEVISION AND **RADIO** Pages 38, 39

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY APRIL 12 1996

Debt trap eased by housing price rise

BY KAREN ZAGOD

A STEADY rise in housing prices has helped to lift nearly 300,000 people out of negative equity in the first three months of this year, and there are signs that the housing market is continuing to improve, according to two reports released today.

Rob Thomas, building societies analyst at UBS Limited. said that there was a 22.7 per cent drop in households in negative equity to 964,000 in the first quarter, compared with the last quarter of 1995. This is not only the largest decline in three years, it is also the first time households in negative equity have fallen below I million since 1992. The number of households with insufficient equity to sell their home and buy another is still high, at 2.1 million.

Mr Thomas attributed the decline in negative equity largely to strong price gains that had benefitted first-time buyers in East Anglia, the South West and Greater London, areas where the nega-

tive equity crisis was greatest. Mr Thomas's analysis was based on figures from the Halifax Building Society's House Price Index for the first quarter of 1996. This showed a 1.2 per cent improvement, on a seasonally adjusted basis, in house prices in March. On an annual basis, prices were 1.7 per cent higher. House prices have now risen for eight

Nine out of the 12 UK regions showed an improvement in prices in the first quarter, with the strongest gains in Northern Ireland, Greater London and Wales. In the East Midlands, however, prices fell 0.7 per cent in the three months and they also eased slightly in East Anglia. Prices in Scotland held steady.

The Halifax is still expecting a 2 per cent increase in prices for the full year, but will review its forecast if the steady improvement continues.

Pennington, page 23

BET rejects improved £2.1bn bid by Rentokil

BET, the business services company, yesterday rejected Rentokil's increased £2.1 billion takeover bid and predicted that it had a strong chance of thwarting the final

However, institutional shareholders and City analysts said that the offer, increased from £1.9 billion, is probably sufficient to ensure success. One analyst said: "I would have thought that Rentokil has done enough to win the fight. BET has done very well to get this much out of Rentokil."

John Clark, BET's chief executive, said: Their new bid is no knock-out punch. I think our chances are excellent and the fight has just begun. We are very confident of delivering greater value to our share-holders as an independent company.

Rentokil, which is majorityowned by Sophus Berendsen

of Denmark, said the new offer valued each BET share at 217.4p against the opening offer of 190.1p. It consists of nine new Rentokil shares, £10 in cash and 80p in special dividends for every 20 BET shares. The previous offer was nine new Rentokil shares and £8 in cash. There is a cash alternative of 202.5p per share, uo from 179.50.

Clive Thompson, chief executive of Rentokil, said: "We see this as a very full offer and, if anything, erring on the generous side.

BET argued that the new offer was mean. It noted that, excluding the special dividend, which works out to a net 4p per share, the bid is worth 209.8p, or only I.I per cent more than the closing price of BET shares on Wednesday.

BET shares rose less than lp to 2084 p on volume of almost 40 million shares, while Rentokil lost 13p to 350p on the expectation that its bid will succeed. Based on the 350p price, Rentokil's offer, including the special dividend, was worth 215.5p at the close of trading yesterday. Rentokil's offer goes unconditional on

April 26.
The two companies will spend the next two weeks presenting their cases to their largest shareholders. BETS biggest investors are M&G Investment Management, with about 7 per cent, Threadneedle Asset Manageand Prudential Portfolio Managers, with about 5 per cent.

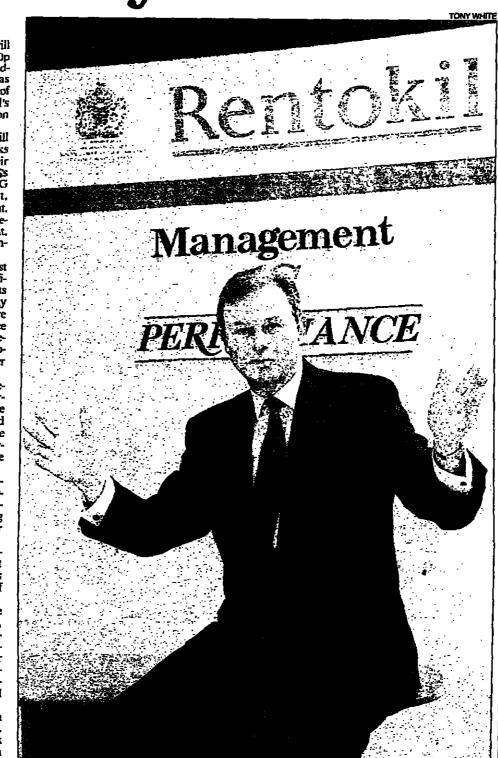
Rentokil decided against boosting its offer by a significant amount on the basis of its track record. The company has grown its profits by more than 20 per cent a year since the early 1980s, an achieve-ment that earned Mr Thomp-son the nickname "Mr 20 Per

Rentokil said it would integrate the two companies' operations but would not reveal the expected cost savings. It did say, however, that the closure of BET's London headquarters would produce immediate savings of some £20 million.

Mr Thompson said redun-dancies would be largely limited to management and administration. We are talking about tens or hundreds rather than thousands," he said. Rentokii has 40,000 employ-

ees worldwide and BET about 100,000. If Rentokil acquires BET it will become one of Europe's largest employers. Rentokil plans to merge the two groups' domestic security, cleaning, facilities manage-

ment and personnel operations. In America, their cleaning and security businesses would be brought together and one of the head offices there would be closed. ☐ Sonhus Berendsen, which owns 51.7 per cent of Rentokil, yesterday reported a pre-tax profit of 2.26 billion Danish kroner (£257 million) for 1995, up 41 per cent.



Clive Thompson, Rentokil's chief executive, describing the restructured bid yesterday

UBS rejects merger talks

By Patricia Tehan BANKING CORRESPONDENT

DIRECTORS of Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) last night voted unanimously to turn down the offer of merger talks with rival CS Holding. In a two-hour meeting last

night, Dr Nikolaus Senn, chairman of UBS board, told fellow directors of an approach from his opposite number at CS Holding. Rainer Gut, last week.

UBS said its board was taken aback by CS Holding's action, the more so as the latter's chairman requested a decision in principle from UBS before the group's general meeting of shareholders on April 16, indicating that this could influence the meeting's outcome." This appears to contradict CS Holding's earlier statement denying that it planned to back Martin Ebner's BK Vision, the investment fund that is UBS's largest shareholder, which plans to oppose the nomina-tion of Robert Studer, UBS executive, to succeed Dr Senn as chairman at the meeting.

Mr Ebner's opposition to the nomination of Mr Studer and other directors was prompted by his battle with the UBS board over the implementation of a scheme to unify the bank's share

The UBS statement said: 'Although a big bank merger could well bring potential benefits in some lines of business, these would far from compensate for the many negative aspects of a merger between UBS and CS Holding. It would also place a great strain on the group's financial and management resources, thereby impairing its current strength

The UBS refusal to hold talks raises serious questions for CS Holding, parent of Credit Suisse. By going public over its wishes to hold merger talks, CS Holding has ac-knowledged the difficulties it faces in domestic and international investment banking.

BUSINESS **TODAY**

STOCK MARKET INDICES

US RATE

tondon Money

STERLING 2.2713 7.7180 1.8468

555: OULA 388:

Tokyo close Yen 108.45

London close \$396,25 (\$394.65)

Payout

National & Provincial **Building Society members** stand to receive average bonuses of EI,000 each after voting overwhelmingly esterday to approve the E1.3 billion takeover by Abbey National. Some N&P members with balances of £50,000 or more who are also borrowers, will receive £4,750. Page 22

Gold prospect

Ashanti Goldfields, the Ghanaian mining company whose major shareholder is Lonrho, has continued its recent buying spree with the £290 million acquisition of Golden Shamrock Mines in Australia. Page 26, Tempus 24

Bank of Ireland tipped for B&W

BY ROBERT MILLER

emerged as clear favourite to announce a takeover of Bristol & West, the UK's ninth-largest building society, on Monday Bristol & West, which has

assets of £9 billion and more than one million savers and borrowers who would be likely to receive average bonus payouts of between £750 and EL000, yesterday declined to comment on speculation about its future.

The society announced that it was freezing new share accounts with immediate effect because of long queues of speculators at its branches hoping to cash in on takeover plans at the last minute.

Bank of Ireland has assets of nearly £20 billion and 27 branches in the UK, including ones in Cardiff, Glasgow, London, Manchester and Liverpool. The bank, Ireland's second largest, has made no

THE Bank of Ireland has secret of its plans to expand its operations in Britain, and Bristol & West is seen as an

> that ambition. The bank has a E3 billion mortgage book. Bristol & West made profits of E77.1 million last year and has nearly 160 branches. It is understood that, under the terms of the Bank of Ireland deal. Bristol & West will keep its own corporate identity in the same way that Chelten-ham & Gloucester has done since its takeover by Lloyds

ideal springboard to achieve

Bank last August. Last night, a spokesman for the Bank of Ireland said: "We never comment on bid speculation or our acquisition policy."

City analysts had narrowed the field of potential bidders for Bristol & West to a handful of institutions such as Allied Irish Banks, which is Bank of Ireland's closest rival, and BAT, the tobacco to financial

Worries depress shares

By PHILIP PANGALOS

POLITICAL worries ahead of the Staffordshire South East by-election and Wall Street's latest slide combined to depress shares in London yesterday.

Against the background of a near 200-point, threesion slide in New York. the FT-SE 100 index remained in negative territory all day. A partial recovery. after a positive start on Wall Street, was shortlived in volatile US trading. Sugges-tions that the US Federal Reserve was worried about inflation upset the Treasury market. The FT-SE 100 ended at 3,744.2, down 23.2

A variety of bid speculation stories, hostile bid developments and broker recommendations helped Seag volume swell to a healthy 889 million shares in after-hours trading. Stock market, page 24

Soros gives his blessing to Blair

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

GEORGE SOROS, the powerful Wall Street investor who helped to force Britain out of the European exchange-rate Mr Blair is determined to mechanism, has come out in support of Tony Blair after meeting him in New York.

After a private meeting with Mr Blair, Mr Soros said that the Labour leader was "very refreshing". Praising Mr Blair's pro-European stance, he said that a Labour election victory would not "influence a scare in international investors".

Bankers and investment managers who met Mr Blair at the Wall Street offices of Barclays de Zoete Wedd said that he had presented policies that US investors in Britain

would favour. "If I were British, I would vote for him in a nanosecond," said one of those who attended a meeting with him. "He has the whole package. He is enormously intelligent and has an absolutely coherent set

of social, political and economic policies that fit with each other. This is one sophisticated politician."

allay the traditional suspicion among US businessmen of Labour governments in Britain. To most American bankers and businessmen who have heard Mr Blair's message, he sounds like a solid Tory whose mission is not to undo the "Thatcher Revolution" that was widely applauded in the US during the 1980s. One businessman said: "He says he's left of centre, but he could be right at the centre of

the Tory party."
Mr Blair's pro-European stance and his scepticism over the Social Chapter both scored points with US investors, as did his determination to maintain a firm monetary policy and his belief in free markets.

Tax row, page

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Alvis forges link to bid for 'battlefield taxi' By Ross Tieman and Philip Pangalos

The Scorpion tank has helped to build Aivis's reputation

ALVIS, which builds the Army's Scorpion and Stormer light tanks, has teamed up with Vickers and Thyssen-Henschel, of Germany, to bid for a £4 billion contract to build a new "battlefield taxi"

for the armies of Britain,

France and Germany. Under a deal to be announced in the next few days, Vickers would build the main production run of personnel carriers. Alvis, Britain's leading specialist in light armoured vehicles, is expected

to make specialist variants for the British Army. Nick Prest, Alvis chairman.

said Alvis's share in the programme would be significant. The collaboration is part of a wide ranging shake up in the European armoured vehicles industry stemming from Britain's decision to make the battlefield taxi. known to the Ministry of Defence as MRAV, the first common procurement of the European

Arms Agency.

GKN, which builds the

had failed to secure a

Stock Market, page 24

Warrior personnel carrier, has teamed up with three German partners, Krauss-Maffei, MaK and Wegmann. The winner of the bid to supply some 8,000 light, wheeled personnel carriers is

then expected to team with Giat, the French tank-builder. The deal is a breakthrough for Alvis. Despite its expertise, German partner to mount an independent bid.

Sparkling debut for Cliveden

Cliveden, the Juxury hotel operator, run at the former home of the Astor family. enjoyed a sparkling stock market debut. The shares ended their first day's trading with a 12p rise to 85p, against a 73p placing price. Volume amounted to 6.33 million shares traded. The hotel and country club business made profits of £1.86 million last year, on turnover of £6.4 million. with trading understood to be ahead this year. Cliveden which has Viscount Astor as a nonexecutive director, was the home to Nancy Astor, the first woman MP and renowned hostess, from her marriage in 1905 into the

Toye range extended

Toye and Company, maker of military uniforms. insignia and other regalia. is diversifying. A new range of enamelled boxes, cufflinks and ties is being offered to menswear shops and other retailers. In the year to December 31, the company returned to profit making £264,538 before tax on sales up £1.1 million to £9.7 million compared with a loss during 1994 of £180,744. The directors are recommending a dividend of 4p a share.

National.

RAIL industry insiders yester-

day tipped Chris Stokes, the

deputy head of the Office of

Passenger Rail Franchising

(Opraf), to succeed Roger

Salmon, who resigned on

Although the Department

of Transport appointed head-

hunters yesterday to find can-

didates for the \$130,000-a-

year job, there are expected to

be few outside takers to what

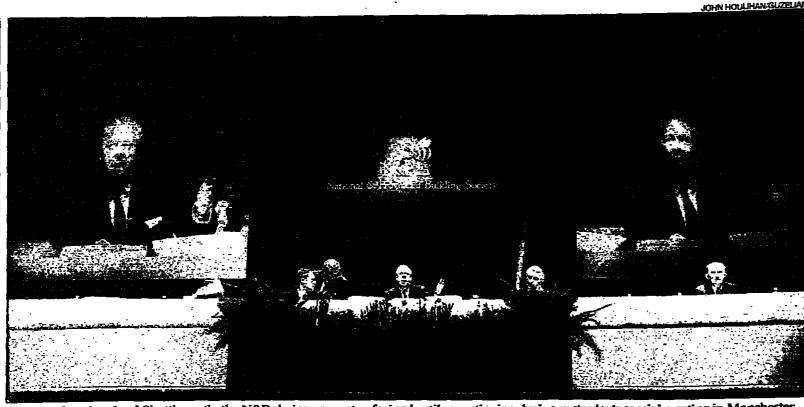
is being seen as a poisoned

Mr Stokes, 48, a lifelong

Wednesday.

TOURIST RATES

	Вапіс	8ani-
	Buys	Sells
Australia 5	2.01	1.85
Austria Sch	16 96	15 46
Belgium Fr	49,60	45 30
Cariada \$	2.157	1,997
Cyprus Cypt .	0.784	0.693
Denmark Kr	9.37	8.57
Foland MH/	766	701
France Fr	8 13	7,48
Germany Dm .	2.42	2.21
Greece Ör	387 <i>0</i> 0	362 00
Hong Kong S	12.33	:1.33
ireland Pr	1.02	094
Brael Sh⊩	5 1400	4 4900
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Japan Yen	178.50	162,50
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New Zealand S	2 37	2 ! 5 ;
Norway Kr	10.40	960
Portugal Esc	244 (0)	225 50
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Spam Pta	197.00	184,00
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USAS	1 609	1 279



Society function: Lord Shuttleworth, the N&P chairman, centre, facing hostile questioning during yesterday's special meeting in Manchester

N&P members give sweeping support to Abbey takeover

By Sara McConnell

THE 1.4 million qualifying members in Manchester, 96 members of the National & per cent of savers who voted Provincial Building Society favoured the takeover. For the takeover to succeed, 75 per vesterday voted overwhelmingly to approve the \$1.3 cent of eligible savers had to billion takeover by Abbey vote "yes". A majority of borrowers were also in favour.

railwayman, has been work-

ing with Mr Salmon, who is

leaving two years ahead of

schedule, since the early days

of Opraf and has won many

plaudits for his work behind

pair of hands who has the

advantage of detailed know-

ledge of how the highly com-

plex franchising process work. He has also taken an

increasingly public role in

recent months, for example

representing Oprof at the court cases that almost

the scenes. He is seen as a safe

Members now stand to re-Before the vote was aneive average bonuses of nounced, Lord Shuttleworth, £1.000 each. Some members the N&P chairman, and with balances of £50,000 or Alistair Lyons, chief executive. more who are also borrowers. faced a hostile reception from will receive £4,750. the 490-strong audience at the At a special meeting of N&P Nynex Centre. Some members

attacked the N&P board for failing to achieve a better

One investor accused the board of "bribing members with their own money" and said a membership "swelled by carpetbaggers" had been "asked to dispose of community assets and of a valuable inheritance". He asked: Where do we stop this disposal of our heritage? Other members called for

scuppered privatisation be-

Roger Ford, editor of Rail

Privatisation News, said: "He

is a really good apparatchik

who knows all the levers and

can do the job. Chris will be

good at nailing down all the

details of franchising and

there simply won't be time for

someone new to play them-

Rail in the late 1960s as a

trainee and has since worked

in a variety of jobs on the

Mr Stokes joined British

fore Christmas.

Opraf deputy tipped to take over

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

details of any "golden handshakes" the board would receive from Abbey National. Lord Shuttleworth denied this would happen.

Michael Hardern, of the campaign group Members for Conversion, who has campaigned for societies to convert to banks, congratulated the N&P but then claimed members were being robbed. N&P should have held out for 🖸 billion. He predicted: "In a

railways, including stints at

InterCity. London Midland.

and Network SouthEast.

where he was deputy manag-

ing director. He was the first

manager at Birmingham

Mr Stokes also has the

presentational advantage of

catching the train to work

from his home in Leighton

Buzzard, in contrast to Mr

Salmon, who embarrassed

the Government when it was

revealed that he is chauffeur-

International station.

year's time we may find we have sold out for a song."

Many members paid tribute to N&P's branch staff. Lord Shuttleworth promised there would be no compulsory redundancies but an estimated 130 branches will be closed after the takeover.

The takeover must now be approved by the Building Societies Commission at a hearing on June 3. If it is confirmed, it will go ahead on August 5 and members will receive bonus payments at the

beginning of September. Savers who have had a share account with the society for less than two years will receive £500 in Abbey National shares. To qualify they must have had a share account with a balance of more than £100 between April 28, 1995, the date the takeover was announced, and December 31, 1995, the qualifying date.

Borrowers will get a fixed distribution of 5500. Savers of more than two years' standing will get a payout of £750. which they can take in Abbey shares or cash. On top of this. they will get a bonus of 7 per cent of the balance of their account. The maximum eligible balance is £50,000.

Railtrack loyalists get £120 cut

BY OUR TRANSPORT

INVESTORS in the ELS billion Railtrack flotation next month will receive discounts on their second payments of up to E120 if they retain their shares for more than a year.

City advisers to the float said yesterday that the incentive terms will give a first-year return on Railtrack shares of up to 17 per cent, against interest rates of about 4 per cent in high street building societies. The yield on the shares,

stalments, is expected to be about 7 per cent. Small investors will also be entitled to an initial discount, compared with institutional shareholders, of about 3 per cent. Investors who register with share shops before May will also be entitled to a 15p discount on their second instalments, which will must be paid next spring. The offer applies only to the first 800

which small investors can pay

for in two roughly equal in-

share offer for up to 1.200 shares held until 31 May, 1997. Pennington, page 23

shares bought. Alternatively,

there is a one-for-15 bonus

driven to the office each day. Sega moves into gaming

> machines By PAUL DURMAN

SEGA. the Japanese electronic games company, is expanding its European business into the fruit machines market with the acquisition of JPM Group.

JPM, which includes JPM International and Ace Coin Equipment, says it is the UK's leading manufacturer of gaming machines. Relaxed regulations and new export opportunities have led to "rocketing" sales and profits. it said.

The price paid to Games Network, JPM's Birmingham-based owner, was not disclosed. JPM's sales in the year to September 30 were £43 million. Annual sales have risen to more than £50 million.

Although in Europe Sega is known for its home electronics games, its origins in Japan lie in coin-operated gaming

Sega said the purchase of JPM fitted with its ambition to be the world's higgest company in electronic entertainment. The JPM companies will trade autonomously within Sega.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Chinese warm to Euro aerospace

THE European consortium bidding against Boeing of America to partner China and South Korea in the development of a 100-seat passenger jet has taken heart from a big improvement in relations between China and France, France and China yesterday signed an undertaking to collaborate. The Chinese noted their "hope that the Europeans will win the contract".

British Aerospace is an equal parmer, with Aerospatiale of France and Alenia of Italy, in the AIR regional aircraft marketing consortium negotiating to provide technical assistance in exchange for a stake in the programme. Under AIR proposals, the Asian Express 100 would share a common cockpit with the A320 twin-jet built by the European Airbus Industrie consortium in which BAe is also a member. If AIR is chosen, China would almost certainly be invited to participate in development of a super-jumbo by Airbus Industrie.

Schneider advances

SCHNEIDER, the French electrical equipment and construc-tion group that completed a wide-ranging restructuring effort last year, reported a sharp rise in annual earnings yesterday. The company said that net profits last year were First? million, up 20.3 per cent from the previous year, while sales amounted to Fir59.4 billion, up 6.2 per cent. The revamped group is now based on two businesses: Schneider Electric (electricity distribution), and Spie-Batignolles (construction and electrical installations).

EBRD to Bulgaria

BULGARIA, eastern Europe's economic laggard, is dusting down the red carpet to welcome thousands of top bankers and politicians to a key financial gathering this weekend. The country is hosting the annual meeting of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). About 4,000 delegates from more than 50 countries will descend on Sofia for the two-day meeting of the EBRD's governors that starts on Monday. It is preceded by a weekend packed with seminars, workshops and country presentations.

Record for grain

GRAIN prices soared to all time highs yesterday on worries that dry weather may damage US harvests and an official prediction that America's stocks of wheat are set to drop lower than at any time since 1948. The Department of Agriculture projected that end-season wheat stocks would fall to 305 million bushels, down 41 million from a forecast made in March. It also expected lower maize stocks. The estimates fuelled a raging bull market that has lifted grain futures to contract and historic highs.

GPA incurs \$9m loss

GPA GROUP, the Irish aircraft leasing company, reported a net loss of \$9 million in the three months to December 31 and said it had included a \$23 million exceptional charge for the securitisation deal that last month dragged it back from the brink of collapse. In the same quarter of 1994 it lost \$11 million after exceptional costs of \$15 million. GPA, which fell heavily into debt after an over-ambitious expansion and came close to collapse, raised \$4 billion last month through a bond issue which used its aeroplanes as security.

Local link for ATI

ATT, the world's largest telecommunications group, has reached agreement with five companies, including Time Warner, to provide service to business customers in 70 cines. ATT is authorised to enter local telephone markets under terms of recent landmark legislation signed by President Clinton in February. Local networks, which had previously been reserved for regional communications companies, known as Baby Bells, represent a market with annual sales of

Warner-Lambert hope

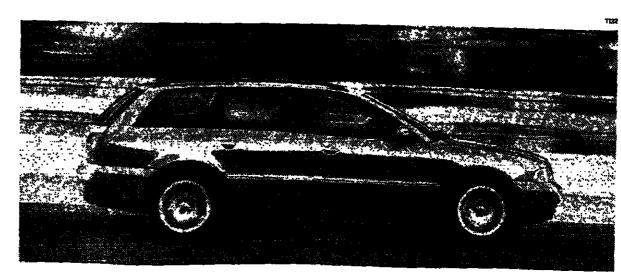
WARNER-LAMBERT, the US pharmaceuticals company, expects earnings from ongoing operations to rise 5 per cent in the first quarter of the current year, after reporting earnings of \$1.50 a share in the first three months last time. Melvin Goodes, chief executive, expected sales growth in "double disting" and profit arough in the "mid-tenne" on purpose unite digits" and profit growth in the "mid-teens", on average, up to 2000. Mr Goodes said Warner-Lambert had signed a letter of intent for a marketing agreement with Pzifer to co-promote its cholesterol-lowering drug Atorvastatin.

US producer prices up

AMERICAN producer prices rose by 0.5 per dent in March compared with a 0.2 per cent decline in February, the Labour Department said. But stripping out the volatile food and energy components, prices rose by only 0.1 per cent, the same as in February. Wall Street had expected overall producer prices to rise by 0.4 per cent. The Labour Department also reported that the number of Americans filing for state jobless benefits fell 59,000 to 347,000 in the latest week, a lower figure than analysts had expected.

France cuts rate

THE Bank of France cut its key intervention rate yesterday to 3.70 per cent from 3.80 per cent, the fifth cut in the rate this year. The central bank left its five-to-ten-day emergency lending rate unchanged at 5.50 per cent. The lowering of the intervention rate was too small a move to boost French shares. The CAC-40 index closed down 11.00 at 2.082.94. Lower rates were expected yesterday, given the strength of the franc against the mark which some said argued for a more aggressive rate cut. Destiny decision, page 25



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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

☐ Society speculators are the reluctant heroes ☐ Will Coleman cut the mustard? ☐ Cheap and dear directors

Bagging the windfalls

☐ BANKING history is being rewritten. Never before, surely, have so many deposit-takers had to close their doors because to stop a run of money coming in. According to Adrian Coles, director general of the Building Societies Association "It is quite wrong for genuine customers to be inconvenienced by people seeking to make a quick buck." Sadly, the directors of most building societies seem unlikely to heed his words. They will go on trying to take their homely institutions into the corporate

TIMES FRIDAY APRILLA

MESS ROUNDUP

rese warm to

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eider advances

D to Bulgaria

rd for grain

incur Som low

Hink for All

big time, along with their pay.
Savers, who have not done well in recent years, are now accused of being "carpetbaggers" if they spread their money around the remaining socieries in the hope of earning windfalls of cash or shares to make up for the depredations of falling interest rates. But they are being sensible. It might be tasteful to refrain, but it would be financial stupid. Even if they guess wrong, they earn the normal return on their deposits. Indeed, these patient investors.

now derided as cheap speculators, provide a vital oil to lubricate the ambitions of the boards of societies and their would-be new owners. Without them, boards might not earn the large majority votes they need under building society rules to convert or transfer. It is the

who tends to object, only to be trampled in the dash for cash.

The dash for cash.

The dash for cash transpled in the dash for cash. The queues are inconvenient

for small savers going about their business. And there should be some sympathy for small societies that have actually continued to try to fulfil the role of a non-profit" mutual org-anisation. But most big societies have long abandoned such an approach in their desire for growth, maximum profit mar-gins and a profit performance superior to their peers.

Mutuality is a state of mind. If

managers do not operate in that spirit, then mutuality has no value. If profits are being maximised, then members might as well lay their hands on the capital and the dividends that profit-maximising operators should pay. They are only get-ting cash, however, because managers found that, otherwise, they could no longer meet their ambition for mergers and growth. Building societies originally grew and prospered, however, because they could offer something better to savers than

did the banks, and offered bor-

few of the bigger specieties are returning to those roots. But it is not clear yet whether that is a change of heart or a short-term tactic to boost market share at the expense of margins while the housing market is thin.

Thanks to the cash windflal, most societies will turn the way their boards want. Once the false mutuals have gone, however, the remainder will probabaly repeat history, offering a better deal to savers and borrowers. From a low base, they should once again outgrow their big, shiny rivals.

Sir Ralph haunts **House of Fraser**

☐ THE strange tale of House of Fraser, the store empire that Mohamed Al Fayed sold, minus Harrods, its jewel, took another twist yesterday. Brian Mc-Gowan, chairman of the Dickens & Jones, Army & Navy and DH Evans enterprise, ushered in a new chief executive. Enter John Coleman, the former managing **PENNINGTON**



director of Texas Homecare. A bit of chainsaw experience always comes in handy, although, to a casual observer, not necessarily at Dickens & Jones. A closer perusal of Mr Coleman's pedigree reveals that, prior to his two-year stint at Texas Homecare, he spent a decade at Burton Group, initially as dep-uty finance director and later as managing director of such outlets as Top Shop, Top Man and Dorothy Perkins.

Mr McGowan said all the things that chairman say at such times. He pointed out that Mr Coleman has an "extremely strong" track record and emphasised that he will provide the precise blend of retail and management skills" required.

Mr Coleman spoke in a similar vein. He was "extremely pleased" to have been offered one of the most exciting and prestigious roles" in UK retailing.

Alas, the City was not im-pressed. Tales had been rife that PDFM, House of Fraser's largest shareholder with a 26 per cent stake, wanted a "big hitter" to join House of Fraser's board. David Dworkin, the American retail specialist who picked up £3 million from a short but successful sojourn at Storehouse, was reputed to be PDFM's first choice. If not as successor to Coleman's predecessor Andrew Jennings — fired by McGowan early last month — then as successor to McGowan himself.

As House of Fraser's shares fell 14p to 175p, McGowan, defending Coleman's appointment, declared: "John had years at Putter when he was a Palab at Burton where he was at Ralph Halpern's elbow. What better retail training could there be than that?" Sir Ralph undoubtedly possessed many skills

but the City is hardly crying out

for an encore of the Burton saga

House of Fraser's shares, 5p off their 1994 flotation price, would appear to be as overvalued now as they were then.

Can pay, will pay

☐ HOW much do shareholders need to pay directors? Big investors will surely ask this more often as, one by one, the better companies convert to Greenbury rules and proudly display their directors' emoluments. Recent reports offer illuminating contrasts. At Cookson, the improving materials group, board pay totalled £5.9 million last year, not counting share options. That was ll per cent of shareholders' dividends, which looks pricey.

Admittedly, the total was swelled by a side-effect of the Cadbury and Greenbury codes that their authors did not anticipate. Ray Sharpe, Cookson's number two in America, was paid £305,000 one-off compensation because his three-year notice period had to be cut when he joined the group board. Even so, Cookson directors are leaders in

the portly moggy stakes. Richard Oster, chief executive, got £1.7 million and most executive directors are Americans, paid on levels prevailing in the USA".

At British Aerospace, whose operations are roughly double the size of Cookson's, and whose market value is about two thirds bigger, the board rates about £2.6 million in all. Both these boards of directors have delivered strong recoveries from financial and management crises in the early 1990s, along with share price growth above the average. In BAe's case, however, much of the hard graft was done by the late John Cahill. Cookson now has the better repute.

At T&N. the motor components and former asbestos group, sales and profits are similar to Cookson's, but the directors are paid only £1.8 million. T&N is worth less than half as much as Cookson and its shares have performed badly. This was, however, not due to hiring cheap directors. It reflects the incidence of claims for harm from asbestos, pre-dating today's board Ignoring asbestos grown as strongly as Cookson's. You could say the group is harder to manage with the asbestos albatross round its neck and unpredictable cash flow. But justice and hard work never did

BP promises bigger dividends

BP EXPECTS to increase its post-tax profit by \$1.5 billion over the next five years (Carl Mortished writes). The oil company told its shareholders that earnings would grow at the rate of 8 per cent a year over the period and promised them increased dividends.

John Browne, chief executive, told the annual meeting that BP aimed to pay out half of its underlying earnings in dividends every year.

Mr Browne emphasised that the targets were not based on changes in prices or margins. "We work on the basis of projects we now have. And we are also cautious A about our ability to imporove capital efficiency."

The company reckons that it can replace production from for its existing projects over the next ten years with the rate oi production incre

New Amec chief looks for overseas partners

By PAUL DURMAN

THE new chief executive of Amec, the engineering and construction group that re-cently escaped a £360 million takeover bid from Kvaerner. wants to strengthen its international business through strategic partnerships.

Peter Mason, who joined Arnec ten weeks ago, believes that the group has not made enough of its design and project management skills in international markets. He blamed this partly on weak marketing and partly on the group's operating structure, which he is subjecting to a strategic review.

Mr Mason highlighted the Amec-led joint venture to build Hong Ko s new aurport terminal building as an made in 1994. Tempus page 23 example of projects the

group should be seeking. Amee's involvement in the £800 million contract has included Watson Steel's design of the terminal's steel roof, and the supply of all site plant and

Mr Mason envisages Amec providing the more profitable skills and technology, while its local partners supply labour and political nous. Amec was reporting annual

pre-tax profits of £15.9 million, broadly in line with the forecasts made during its defence of the bid from Kvaerner, the Norwegian ship-building to engineering group. Without bid defence costs of \$4.1 million, Amec would have

gave up his executive responsi-bilities. He said that underlying operating profits were up 39 per cent at £40.9 per cent. However, settling the dispute over the Tiffany North Sea oil platform cost the company £8.1 million.

chairman of Amec, yesterday

Mr Mason said Amec had decided to retain Fairclough Homes, the housebuilder. because a sale would not produce a sufficiently good price at a time when the housing market was improving.

Fairclough made a £2.6 million profit after a £2.8 million loss in 1994. The construction division lifted סוד מסטונומת 1.24 מתכחוד צומס £11.9 million, while the me-Sir Alan Cockshaw, the chanical and electrical divi-

sion improved its contribution from £12.9 million to £19.5 million.

Kvaerner retains a 26 per cent stake in Amec, bought for £50 million. Erik Tonseth, Kvaerner's chief executive, said the Norwegian group would be happy to place its holding; after its acquisition of rival construction group Trafalgar House, just completed. the Amec shares have no strategic interest for us".

Amec said the outlook for 1996 remains encouraging. and it expects much better profits this year. Analysts at Merrill Lynch are forecasting £34 million.

Amec is paying a 1.5p final



John Coleman, House of Fraser's new head Burton Group.

House of Fraser shares fall as chief is chosen

HOUSE OF FRASER; the struggling department store group, has managed to fill the void left vacant by last month's sudden departure of its managing director. The Dickins & Jones and Army & Navy group has appointed John Coleman, a former Texas Homecare managing director, as chief executive (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The news received a lacklustre reception in the City, and the shares shimped 14p to 175p, below the 180p flotation price in March 1994. In recent months, the shares have risen sharply on bid speculation.

The announcement comes a week before HoF is expected to unveil a sharp drop in pretax profits from £28 million to £15 million in the year to January 30. The group forecast a decline in profits in January, in its fourth profit warning since flotation two years ago. In March, Andrew Jennings resigned as managing director amid shareholder dissat-

isfaction over the group's performance. Mr Coleman, 43, left Texas Homecare last year after Ladbroke sold the DIY chain to so speni ien yi Pennington, this page

Montigny, 12 April 1996

ELECTRICITY NOTICE BRITISH GAS TRADING LTD

SCHEDULE 2

Regulations 3(2) and 4(2) PART 1

Form Of Application For A Private Electricity Supply Licence or Extention.

1. Full name of applicant: British Gas Trading Limited. 2. Address of the applicant or, in the case of a body corporate,

the registered or principal office: Rivermill House, 152 Grosvenor Road, London, SW1V 3JL.

3. Where the applicant is a Company, the full names of the current Directors and the Company's registered number.

Roy Alan Gardner Michael Richard Alexander Graham John Bartlett

Company number: 3078711

4. Where a holding of 20 per cent or more of the shares (see Note 1) of an applicant is held by a body corporate or partnership or an unincorporated association carrying on a trade or business with or without a view to profit, the name(s) and address(es) of the holder(s) of such shares shall

British Gas Trading Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of British Gas plc of the same registered office address.

5. Desired date from which licence is to take effect:

6. A sufficient description adequately specifying (see Note 2) the nature and situation of the premises intended to be supplied, separately identifying premises within the power bands specified in and to the extent provided by paragraph 7

Any non-domestic premises with a maximum demand above 100kW in the authorised areas of the following Public Electricity Supply Companies: Eastern Group plc, East Midlands Electricity plc, London Electricity plc, Manweb plc, Midlands Electricity ple, Northern Electric ple, NORWEB ple, SEEBOARD pic, Southern Electricity plc, South Wales Electricity plc, South West Electricity plc, Yorkshire Electricity Group plc, Scottish Power plc, and Scottish Hydro-Electric plc.

7. (a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b) indicate the total number of premises intended to be supplied in each power band as shown in the table below, together with the aggregate energy forecast to be supplied and the aggregate estimated maximum demand (see Note 3) for each power band.

(b) If the date in paragraph 5 above is on or after 1st April 1994 then only Power Band A shall be completed and if the said date is on or after 1st April 1998 then this paragraph shall cease to have effect:

4	(B) Exceeding 0.1 MW	N/A		
, 4	put not exceeding			
	10 MW		- alcorrie Hues	and electrical
	8. A description of the plant by means of w electricity, indicating constructed and white further identifying any	which I	plant and hu isting plant a that system wi	es are to be

owned or otherwise in the posse

(A) Not exceeding

0.1 MW

applicant

Supplies are intended to be provided by means of the transmission systems and distribution systems owned by: The National Grid Company plc, Eastern Group plc, East Midlands Electricity plc, London Electricity plc, Manweb plc, Midlands Electricity plc, Northern Electric plc, NORWEB plc, SEEBOARD plc, Southern Electricity plc, South Wales Electricity pic, South West Electricity plc, Yorkshire Electricity Group plc, Scottish Power plc, and Scottish Hydro-Electric plc. The applicant, at this moment in time, does not propose to own any electric lines - but wishes to reserve the right to do so.

9. A statement of the extent (if any) to which the applicant considers it necessary for powers under Schedule 3 (compulsory acquisition of land etc.) and under Schedule 4 (other powers etc.) to the Act to be given through the licence for which he is applying:

To be able to facilitate the supply of electricity to the customer types outlined in Paragraph 6 the applicant considers it necessary for powers under Schedule 3 (compulsory acquisition of land etc.) and under Schedule 4 (other powers etc.) to the Act to be given through the licence.

10. Details of any licences held, applied for or being applied for by the applicant in respect of the generation, trans supply of electricity:

(a) in relation to an applicant with a share capital are allotted

(b) in relation to an applicant with capital but no share capital. are to rights to share in the capital of the applicant: (c) in relation to an applicant without capital, are to interest:

(i) conferring any right to share in the profits or liability to contribute to the losses of the applicant; or

(ii) giving rise to an obligation to contribute to the debts or expenses of the applicant in the event of a winding up.

The description should enable the areas, location or premises concerned to be adequately and readily identified, by map if the applicant so desires or by any other convenient means. The following examples of descriptions that might be used are not exhaustive and are by way of illustration only: the area or premises might be identified by the name of the customers and/or postal address of the premises to be supplied; described by reference to a named street or road town, city, village, parish, county or other accepted boundary, such as a Local Authority Area; or described by reference to certain other characteristics such as the type of premises or the maximum electrical demand to be met at those premises.

to be

none

N/A

(a) For premises already receiving electricity for a period in excess of 12 Months, whether from the applicant or anyone else, maximum demand shall be calculated as the average of the three highest monthly maximum demands in the preceding 12 . Months: or

(b) For premises not already receiving electricity, maximum demand shall be calculated as the average of the three highest monthly maximum demands which might reasonably be expected by the applicant to be supplied in the first 12 months of supply.

In compliance with the Electricity (Applications for Licences and Extensions of Licences) Regulations 1990, maps relevant to the above application are lodged with the regional offices of the Office of Electricity Regulation and are available for inspection by the public between 10:00 and 16:00 on any working day.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Rather than let rumours develop regarding the offers made to the Société Civile des Salariés (SCS) regarding the purchase of its shareholding in Financière Eurest, Sodexho clarifies its position as follows:

The management buy-out of EUREST France that was put in place in 1991 has been supported by SODEXHO SA, holding 33.34% of the share capital of Financière Eurest; Wagons-Lits, holding 33.3% of the shares; the management and associates owning 33.2% of the shares (but 57.88% of the voting rights); and by the venture capital fund, Epargne Développment, with 0.16% of the equity.

SODEXHO contested the sale in 1995 by Wagons-Lits to Compass of its 33.3% of the capital in Financière Eurest, notably in the context of the agreements made at the time of the management buy-out in 1991. SODEXHO has recently taken legal action against Compagnie International des Wagons-Lits in this respect. As a result, SODEXHO considers that the Board of Financière Eurest must reject in accordance with statutory authorisation procedures the offer made by Compass to purchase SCS's shareholding in Financière Eurest.

More than 5 years ago, SODEXHO decided not to make any alliance without the full support of its partner's existing management. Hence, over the last 9 months, SODEXHO management has held discussions with SCS management and together they have developed a solution which guarantees management independence and autonomy for the EUREST France business, thereby ensuring the perfect continuity of the current situation.

SODEXHO has offered a consideration of up to FF 694 million for the SCS's shareholding, dependant upon the future performance of EUREST France, but subject to a minimum payment of FF 592 million. This consideration is interest bearing at the average monthly money market rate (T4M) with effect from

1 April 1996.

SODEXHO has also provided to the SCS a bank guarantee of FF 694 million (value date 1 April 1996) as surety of its intent to purchase in due course the SCS's interest in Financière Eurest. The SCS has made it known that certain of its own shareholders (both Eurest France managers and others) wish to sell their stakes immediately; to this end SODEXHO is ready to make an advance to the SCS on the consideration payable in due course for the acquisition of the latter's shareholding in Financière Eurest.

> For further information, please contact: Clodine PINCEMIN Corporate Vice-President, Communications Tel: (33.1) 30 85 72 14



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Dairy sector nervou slaughter decision n

ues to haunt food manufacturing stocks, with a number of shares in the spotlight yesterday after Credit Lyonnais Laing issued a detailed study

In a note called BSE: The enemy within, CLL suggests that the Government has until the end of this month to conceive a slaughter programme of BSE-infected herds. CLL points out that the lifting of the export ban on UK beef and beef derived products is wholly contingent upon EU approval of this slaughter

programme.
CLL says that Northern.
Unigate and Dalgety have the most significant exposure to a slaughter programme, with a prediction, based on CLL's most likely outcome, of profits and earnings downgrades of about 10 per cent.

On a worst-case scenario, the earnings risk for dairy stocks could be 20 per cent. with dividend growth constrained.

CLL remains cautious on Unigate, down 45p at 410p, and Northern, 2p easier at 175p. and advises switching out of Dalgety, down op at 409p, and into Hillsdown. l≒p stronger at 177p.

Traders elsewhere in the market remained cautious, but calm, against the background of a near-200 point three-session slide in New York and concern over the Government's dwindling majority. Another big overnight fall on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones average tumbled 74 points, saw shares in London start lower.

There was a partial recovery after a positive start on Wall Street on firmer bonds, futures and better-than-expected March producer price data in the US. However, Wall Street resumed its volatile pattern and this combined with bond market weakness to depress sentiment in London.

The FT-SE 100 index ended 23.2 points lower at 3,744.2. Volume reached 840 million shares, boosted by trading of 82 million shares in Mentmore Abbey, the former Platignum, which returned from suspension at 8n.

There was bectic a the London International Financial and Futures Exchange (Liffe) after the launch of a Euroyen Futures contract, linking up with the Tokyo International Financial Futures Exchange (Tiffe). Tiffe's



Hectic trading on Liffe as Euroyen futures were traded for the first time yesterday, linking up with Tokyo

Euroven contract is the world's second largest money market futures contract. The battle for control of

BET, the business services group, hosted up after Rentokil, the environmental and industrial services group. upped the terms of its hostile bid. as expected, by £300 million to \$2.1 billion. BET swiftly rejected the increased

dividends for every 20 BET shares. Rentokil's revised offer values each BET share at 215.5p, with an improved cash alternative worth 202.5p (179.5p previously).

internationally-traded pharmaceuticals saw selling. with Smithkline Beecham down 26p at 655p, Zeneca 27p to £13.74 and Glaso Wellcome off 10p to 788p. However, RTZ

Cable and Wireless, the telecoms group whose financial advisers are working on merger proposals with BT's advisers, recovered from an 8p deficit to end the day 3p lower at 526p. The recovery was prompted by substantial activity in the options pit, with reports of hectic trading in C&W's call options. BT lost 6p to 370p.

think that the improved offer is likely to win the day.

BET rose 4 p to 2084 p. on heavy turnover of 38.3 million shares as institutions sold in the market following the increased bid terms from Rentokil, down 13p to 350p. The increased offer involves nine new Rentokil shares, £10 in cash and 80p in BET

COMMODITIES

ICIS-LOR (Leadon & (One)

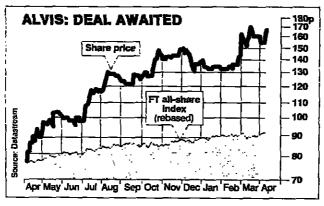
offer, although many analysis added 17p to 978p after brokers tipped the gold price to

Housebuilders continued to attract strong support after the recent mortgage cuts and a positive review of the sector from SBC Warburg. Barratt climbed 11p to 262p. Redrow 3p to 138p, Tay Homes 7p to 139p. **Persimmon** 7p to 227p. Wilson Bowden 12p to 433p,

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

BARLEY (close L/f)

WHEAT (close E/t)



	Tokyo: Nikkei Average 21694.43 (-9
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng
ous as	Amsterdam: EOE Index
mb mb	Sydney: 2234.8 (
MADTO	Frankfust: 2509.71 (-2
nears	Singapore: 2384.75 (-
Rugby 7p to 126p. Blue Circle	Brussels: General
9p to 364p, BPB 10p to 336p, Marley 8p to 237p, and Wolse-	Paris: 2072-52 (-2
ley, 6p to 460p. Matthew Clark firmed 6½p to 744½p, boosted by a Credit	Zurich: SKA Gen
Lyonnais Laing buy recommendation.	London: 2789,7 (-
Credit Lyonnais Laing also	FI 100 3744.2 (-
recommended a switch out of	FT-SE Mid 250 4390.5 F
Scottish Hydro, down 42p to	FT-SE-A 350
327 p. and into Scottish Pow-	FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1640.35 (-)
er, 4p lower at 349p.	FT Non Financials 1992.57
Alvis, the defence equip-	FT Fixed interest 111.71 (-C
ment maker that specialises in	FT Govt Sets
light armoured vehicles.	SEAQ Volume 889
eased lp to 167p, with a	USM (Datastrin)
substantial Vickers deal un-	US\$
derstood to be in the pipeline.	German Mark 2.2719 (-0.0 Exchange Index
News that John Coleman, a	Bank of England official close (4pm
form an analysis disease of	L'ECU

former managing director of

Texas Homecare, has been

appointed as the new chief executive of House of Fraser

failed to help the department

ket opened lower after weaker

overnight US Treasuries and

lower Bunds. There was a

partial recovery on the release

of the latest US economic data.

but the market failed to hold

on to the higher levels and

23 ticks to £1042432, on volume

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

The June long gilt future lost

ended near the day's lows.

stores group.

and on Proph.	ì	
The shares slid 14p to 175p]	
as the market had been hop-	Abtrust Emerg Asia 693	
ing for someone with a higher	Advent VCT 95	
profile.	Aegis Wts 26 +	
Friendly Hotels was un-	British Smaller Co's 95	
changed at 145p after a buy	Cambridge Wir NV 235	٠.
note from Panmure Gordon.	Cliveden (73) 85	٠.
Panmure has also reiterated	Close Brothers VCT 95	٠.
its buy stance on British	Dicom Group (270) 310 +	
Aerospace, up 4p to 857p.	Easynet Group (100) 105	٠.
Panmure says that BAe is still	FI Group (235) 299 -	
too cheap given the visibility of	first inf (165) 181	٠.
its order book, which with	Fleming Worldwide 52	٠.
	Fulmar 195	٠.
Eurfighter will stretch well	GT Income Gwth Tst 941:	٠.
past 2005, its prospects of	Gaπmore VCT 96	
significant further defence		٠.
contracts, and its exposure to		٠.
the fast-improving civil aero-		٠.
space market. Panmure has a	ILP Group (75) 86 +	
target price of £10.	Marine & Merc (125) 123	. .
Manchester United, which	Orange (205) 228': -	
is still on course for an FA Cup	Penine ALM VCT 95	٠.
and Premiership double, add-	Ferp inc Gwith (500) 515 -	
ed another 22p to 346p.	Quester VCT 95	
Cliveden, the luxury hotel	Raphael Zorn (32) 35	
operator, made a sparkling	Scottish Asian C 101': -	
debut with a 12p rise to 85p,	Silver Shield Group (3) 34	
against a 73p placing price.	Systs Integ Res (115) 120 -	
GILT-EDGED: The mar-	Taverners Trust Uts 513	
ket opened lower after weaker	Triad Group (135) 184	٠.
ACCOPATION TOWER AREA WEAKER		

of 51,000 contracts traded. Among conventional stocks,	MAJOR CHANGES
longer-dated issues fared worse, with losses extending to E34, while shorts and index-linked stocks fell by about E42. NEW YORK: Concern	RISES: 853p (~120p) Mitel
about inflation took prices on Wall Street lower and by midday the Dow Jones indus- trial average was 16.62 points down at 5.469.36.	FALLS: Hise of Fraser

MAJOR INDICES New York (midday): (-23.2) (+3.4) (-8.7) (-2.88) -7.80) -6.70) -0.16) -0.16) -0.41) 31592 9.1m

RECENT ISSUES -

MANUEL PRINCIP DAY	, 10
Advent VCT 95	[
Aegis Wts 26	+ 24:
British Smaller Co's 95	}
Cambridge Wtr NV 235	j
Cliveden (73) 85	[
Close Brothers VCT 95	- 1
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Easynet Group (100) 105	}
FI Group (235) 299	- J [
First Inf (165) 181	{
Fleming Worldwide 53	· //
Fulmar 195	}
GT Income Gwth Tst 94'	· }
Garrmore VCT 96	· · · · [[
Guinness Flight VCT 95	
Hill Sml UK (100) 96	[
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ILP Group (75) 86	+ 3
Marine & Merc (125) 123	ji
Orange (205) 228'	ቃ - 5))
Penine ALM VCT 95	1
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Scottish Asian C 1011	չ – Կ∦
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Triad Group (135) 184	·
	- 11

RIGHTS ISSUES

Eidos Uts n/p (675) 53 Fairway Gp n/p (80) Guiness Peat n/p (30) 6 VDC n/p (675)

MAJOR CHANGES
RISES: Micro Focus 853p (~120p) Mitel 433p (~21p) Broken Hill 975p (~25p)
FALLS: Hise of Fraser 175p (-14p) Smithkline
Closino Prices Page 27

3734.0

TEMPUS

Rien ne va plus

Within a month, and for a mere 10 per cent uplift on its initial £1.9 billion bid, the rodent killing and plant watering company will merge with BET's towel cleaners and personnel trainers, barring a rival bid.

BET shareholders were not bowled over by Rentokil's offer, it is less than generous. Instead, they are buying into Clive Thompson's track record. For as long as anyone can remember, he has grown Rentokil's profits by 20 per cent a year and, with BET at its side, he claims the same rate can be maintained ad infinitum. Rodents beware.

His confidence stems from his belief reinforced by constant repetition - that BET is a "good business, badly managed". The implication is that Rentokil will be able to raise BET's profit margins rapidly to the

RENTOKIL'S gamble might just pay off.

bidder's 20 to 30 per cent level. Cost cutting will permit some easy early gains as BET's will permit some easy early gains as BET's senior management is culled but the rest is open to question. BET presents Rentokil with different businesses that may not respond to bright uniforms and a new cheerleader.

It is hard to imagine, for example, how Rentokil will raise the profit margins on BET's electronic security business from their unusually high current level of 17.5 per cent. Electronic security is a more complex business than office cleaning. Even with the forced optimism of a bid target. BET's long term margin goal for electronic security is only 15

If Clive Thompson succeeds in raising BET's returns to Rentokil levels, his achievement will be justly praised but investors should not be surprised if he falls short.

Amec

FOUR months after a messy escape from Kvaerner's takeover bid, AMEC is at a crossroads. With a new chief executive on board it has another chance to produce some good results.

They are long overdue. AMEC's shares have doubled in value since October, but over the last five years have underperformed the

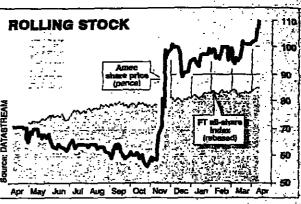
market by 70 per cent. Many of the key questions about AMECs future remain unanswered. Kvaerner remains a reluctant holder of a 26 per cent stake in the company. AMEC is, for the meantime, hanging on to Fairclough Homes but the housebuilder, finally back in profit, is an anomaly in the portfolio. Further recovery in the housing market could flush out a buyer at a better

Amee's focus on higher margin design and build and project management business makes sense as is the intention to make more use of the group's skills in overseas markets through strategic partnerships.

AMEC is also asking its shareholders for powers to deal with its disproportionately large and expensive

(Ell.6 million a year) prefercould could reap significant benefits for equity carnings. The shares are up 25 per cent since the Kvaerner bid

failed. But with some of AMEC's biggest problems behind it and with encouraging signs in some of its markets, they could still the worth a gamble.



Lonrho

price.

THE long arm of the European Competition Commissioner now appears to extend to Johannesburg, with rumours that he is about to stop Lonrho from snuggling up to Gencor in the platinum market. Why European bureaucrais should be able to prevent a merger of mining interests in Africa is an interesting question. How they could prevent it is an even bigger puzzle.

Platinum is important because it is used to make catalytic convertors for automobiles and, therefore, European car manufacturers have vested interest in keeping the price low. Most of the shiny metal comes from South Africa, where three companies, Russenberg, part conglomerate, Lonrho and Gencor dominate the market. merging their respective interests into Impala Platinum. which will produce about a

DOLLAR RATES

third of the world supply of the metal.

Meanwhile, Anglo American is complicating the picture by building a stake in Lonrho with clear designs on Lonrho's mining interests including Ashanti, the successful Ghanaian gold mining associate. Anglo is the logical buyer of the demerged Lonrho mining interest but would have little desire to inherit an association with Gencor. Anglo, therefore, may have every reason to see the Impala venture scuppered.

Ironically, the platinum price has been weak of late for different reasons. The Russians are exporting large stockpiles in search of hard currency but their actual production of the metal is thought to be half of capacity. If that is the case. Europeans have not much reason to fear a South

The decision to reduce the cover on the BP dividend is the final chapter in the oil company's spectacular recov ery. Having restored profitability levels, the company now feels confident enough to pay out half its earnings and it is also giving a signal that there is more growth to come in the bottom line.

Market forecasts of the 1997 payout based on the new rate put the shares on a premium yield, more than justifying the recent advance in the share price.

However, investors should wait before buying. A buoyant short-term oil price caused by low inventories and production shutdowns in the North Sea, has kept the oil sector bubbling. Looking further out, the oil price dips sharply due to fears of Iraqi exports hitting the market late in the summer.

BP's production portfolio should keep its top line grow ing nicely over the next three years but along with the rest of the sector, the shares could dip in the next few months.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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- 1	Button	8,100	Sainsbury	1.300
- 1	Cable Wire	4,000	Schroder-	80
- 1	Cadbury	5.300	Scot & New	682
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FIMES FRIDAY APRILO

THE TIMES

DIARY

Arresting sight for Sir Robin

NAKED shareholders paraded themselves in front of Sir Robin Ibbs and at the first Lloyds TSB annual meeting yesterday, protesting at the bank's stance on Third World debt.

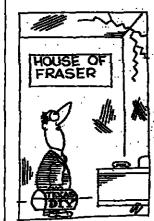
At least two arrests were made after the "ethical streak" and several pro-testers were ejected from the meeting held at Edinburgh's new international conference centre.

The 30 protesters belonged to the Lloyds and Midiand Boycott (LAMB), the same gang that tied itself to the railings at Lloyd's annual meeting last year. "We've tried polite questions at previous meetings but it doesn't work," panted one protester. Spurned Sir Robin says LAMB is ignoring his invitations to talk

PETER MASON'S first two months as chief executive of the construction group Amec have done wonders for his frequentflyer miles. He has spent 80 hours in the air, flown 30,000 miles, and seen Singapore in 24 hours while visiting group oper-ations around the world.

Where's Peter?

THE picturesque home of Peter Middleton on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors is the cause of much concern among locals. The former Lloyd's chief executive, who quit in a hurry six months ago to become a £1 million-a-year executive at Salomon Brothers, has not been seen at his cottage for months. The 56-year-old former monk was last spotted with Lucy Roberts, his girlfriend, fixing up Old School House, which nestles next to the ancient are keeping vigil on his Honda 250cc motorbike, which was left outside in



Real-time love

CITY whiz-kids across the UK are making room in their diaries for a date with Julia Carling. Extolling the virtues of Cityscreen, the real-time magazine, at a presentation to marketeers last night, the loveless blonde made a desperate plea to brokers and traders. "Who reads Cityscreen?" posed Will Carling's former love. Young, wealthy, single males. Sounds interesting ... maybe a potential date for my diary."

Heep of trouble

ANOTHER apparent blow to the US tobacco industry has come after an ex-lover seems to have handed over wads of documents concerning Philip Morris. Hatsy Heep, an interior decorator, kept the documents in her basement on behalf of her former fiance, a Philip Morris researcher. When the relationship turned sour. Ms Heep sought revenge, to the delight of lawyers hostile to Philip Morris.

SLOUGH ESTATES, the property group. handing out ghoulish invitations to the demolition of a disused bus maintenance garage in Elstree today. The million square foot building adjacent to the MI, which was originally intended to be the final extension of the Northern Line, is to be turned into a business

'Ins' and 'outs' will decide destiny of monetary union

George Brock charts shifts in the nature of the debate over the euro

he Chancellor of the Exchequer flies into the stone-walled city of Verona today for what is billed as, at best, a bruising encounter and at worst an ambush. Yet it is a fair bet that Kenneth Clarke will be his usual insouciant self when he touches down.

His unconcern will not only reflect his renowned and jovial indifference to any claim that crisis is coming from whatever quarter. Mr Clarke is not only congenitally immune to crisis fever, but knows that he holds enough cards to prevent Britain being forced to join a revamped exchange-rate mechanism any time soon. And he arrives in Verona with the Cabinet rumpus over a referendum on monetary union behind him.

Most importantly, Europe's debate about the single currency has shifted since the beginning of this year and will go on doing so for another two years. Businessmen may urge politicians to clarify unresolved questions about how a monetary union might work, but neither the EU nor Chancellor Helmut Kohl works that way. Herr Kohl, who remains the master of the single currency game, is happy to wait for the debaters to exhaust themselves. He discreetly discourages fron-

tal opposition to monetary union inside the German political establishment but says little in public, influencing

events from the sidelines.

Last autumn, public and private speculation that the start of the single currency would have to be delayed beyond January 1999 gained ground. Delay seemed the only solution if France's high public deficit blocked its entry to the single currency. But in the new year the

climate changed. Germany's finance minister, Theo Waigel, revealed that his own country's public debt fell well outside of the 3 per cent (of GDP) required by the Maastricht treaty. Although Herr Waigel promised that Germany's 3.6 per cent would be brought into line by the end of 1997, markets began to suppose that both Germany and France might have to bend the rules to join each other in the euro-zone. The Maastricht treaty has always allowed governments to fudge the debt rules, but only recently have German politicians begun to draw attention to the fact. "All texts are open to interpretation, and Maastricht is no exception," Karl Lamers, the influential Christian Demo-

crat, said two months ago. With jobs leaking out of the German economy at an alarming rate, German industrialists piled on pressure for a lower mark. After a pivotal meeting in Munich in January with the increasingly ambi-tious and powerful Herr Waigel, Herr Kohl began, gently, to try to talk the mark down (see chart). So far, and assisted by a strengthening dollar, the factic has worked.

Moreover, market pundits are starting to sound more



Key figures: Theo Waigel, German finance minister, and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor

optimistic about monetary union in spite of weak growth in the key economies. President Jacques Chirac of France has not wobbled; Herr Kohl stays firm. "EMU will be first and foremost an act of political will," Michele Debonneuil. chief economist at Banque Indosuez, said this week. That bank's own research suggests that France's debt-to-GDP percentage will be 3.7 in 1997 and Germany's 3.2. The market currently believes that in the spring of 1998, EU leaders will not let such numbers stand in their way. Last month's regional elections in Germany confirmed that Herr Kohl will still be around to

lead the leaders. So far as persuading the markets goes, Herr Kohl's project of economic and monetary unification stands in much better shape than six months ago. The problem with this rosy scenario lies in persuading the voters.

Confident as they may claim to be about the single currency's take-off, Herr Kohl and his ministers postponed an expensive propaganda campaign for the euro in January because important local elections were in the offing. Be-tween 50 and 60 per cent of Germans remain opposed to

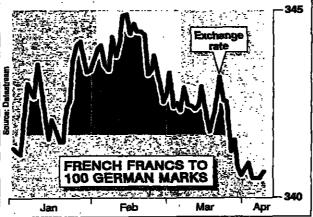
the euro and polls find opponents also outnumbering enthusiasts in Britain, Austria, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. The euro quite simply lacks legitimacy. To succeed, Herr Kohl and

President Chirac have to jump at least four obstacles:

irst, finding a big enough "core" of states both wanting the euro and with deficits low enough to pass muster. Deficit ratios below 4 per cent seem to be acceptable to governments
— although fudging on that
scale may well scare German
voters who go to the polls in a
general election in 1998. But manageable" overshoots are by no means guaranteed. British Treasury forecasts suggest that the French deficit ratio may be above 4 per cent at the end of 1997. The annual report of the European Monetary Institute, due in November, will be the key indicator of whether enough countries can come close enough.

Secondly, quelling French doubts about EMU and jobs. French public opinion remains roughly 2:1 in favour of the single currency: President Chirac, who is not even committed to such a thing, would have

price stability its priority. The Maastricht treaty says that price stability must be the European Central Bank's (ECB) key target. little to fear from an EMU currency from diverging too far from the euro. British ministers



Fourthly, avoiding an EU split. In spite of dire predictions here that Mr Clarke will be faced with demands that he join a new ERM "or else", neither Germany nor France is yet determined to create a single currency at the price of permanently dividing the EU. No one has yet succeeded in designing a convincing, compulsory and inclusive system for preventing currencies outside the single

enthusiastic about the

intitiative, which offers a long-

may have a high profile in the

arguments, but fears that "out"

countries will devalue against

the euro are essentially - for

fear of Spanish or Italian

devaluation. The sanctions

France and Germany

referendum if he held one

now. The President's problem

is his own credibility gap: he

keeps making precise pledges about the jobs France will

create and nobody believes he

can deliver. Not all his welfare

cuts have yet bitten and fresh

opposition is still appearing:

France's doctors have called a

strike for later this month.

Over the summer, the Govern-

ment will have to draft a

budget for 1997, which will

have to be even more austere

- the last one brought the

country to a halt just before

Thirdly, quelling German doubts. Herr Kohl will proba-

bly try to brush aside economic

fears and tell his voters that

they should swop the mark for

the euro to prove that Germans

remain good Europeans. But

ed a new strategy of softening

the EMU criteria and the

mark. As an influential mem-

ber of the Bundesbank council

pointed out privately last

month, that implies a monetary

union which does not make

Christmas.

term commitment to highlevel training. Modern Apprenticeships are a serious reform of training in this country. They will have far-reaching implications for the way we meet the skill needs in the next decade. The Government has much sympathy with Mr Hartley's views — the solutions he calls for are already in place. Yours faithfully,

JAMES PAICÉ, MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education and Employment, Great Smith Street, SW1.

merely observing basic busi-

and highly profitable. I would be extremely privileged, as a non-working name, to be given such an opportunity.

become a name. I did not think I was being particularly clever at the time,

I accept that my decision was based on only a little learning and I am aware it is reprehensible for me to feel smug about it. I just can't help Lower Woodbrook,

against devaluers being de-manded by some French industrialists would spell the destruction of the single European market and perhaps of the Union itself. Global markets would react accordingly.

Hans Tietmeyer's suggestion yesterday that the head of a future ECB be encouraged to "persuade" weakening currencies to manage devaluation promptly may be economically logical but could only increase political tensions between "ins" and "outs". Dr Tietmeyer, the most likely candidate to head the ECB, cannot seriously believe that devaluation guidance from what would be one of the most powerful and least accountable central banks will be acceptable in Britain, Spain, Portugal or Ireland.

Great as these problems are, continental political classes and financial markets still feel that fear of chaos, which would be triggered by any hesitation over monetary union, will outweigh the doubts. Attention is shifting again, this time towards how a monetary union will work

erman bankers have been ready to contemplate easing entry criteria for borderline states on the understanding that economies with a record of misbehaviour will not be allowed to reoffend. But discussions over Herr Waigel's "stability pact" have all but emptied his scheme of meaning. Few governments are willing to support auto-matic penalties - Herr Waigel suggested hefty fines - for running deficits. The effect of this rejection inside Germany

has yet to be seen. None of the increasingly elaborate preparations for the launch of the euro have answered the question about whether the new money will divide or unite the existing EU. Monetary union remains at heart a political device to reinforce the link between France and Germany. But if a Franco-German-Benelux currency is launched in a way that makes clear that Spain, Italy and eastern Europe cannot join for a long time, the EU will be transformed into something far more rigidly divided than the querulous, higgledypiggledy collective of today.

The City of London and British business will come under pressure to persuade Britons to rethink their reluctance to join: German officials are tinkering with schemes to prevent London dominating the bond market in the new currency. But British opposition to the euro is not the central difficulty with which EMU's architects must wrestle. In the question of the "ins" and the "outs" lurks the issue of the EU's whole future.

Inscrutable origin of riches from China

Tom Walker in Hong Kong on banks' fears of becoming tainted

ong Kong's closeknit fraternity of private bankers have given themselves a clean bill of health, in spite of questions raised by the head of Courts, the Queen's bank, about the legitimacy of some of the "new money" coming from China into the territory.

David Went, chief executive of Courts Group, raised hackles when he admitted that his bank was being circumspect in its treatment of the vast fortunes being made in the People's Republic of China. "In a country where private

wealth has not been legal, you have to ask yourself where it is coming from." he said. "We have a reputational risk in taking on clients from the PRC and we would be cautious in accepting clients." Hong Kong, one of the

world's great booking centres for Asian entrepreneurs and families wishing to park substantial assets offshore, has maintained its high standing over the past decade in the face of an increasingly murky international picture of offshore

banking. The whereabouts of Latin America's drug fortunes has always worried the international monetary watchdogs, and the collapse of the former Sov-

iet Union into gangsterism money. If you want to be in has added to their troubles. Asian wealth, meanwhile, has been allowed to pile up largely unchecked.

Hong Kong has serviced the bulk of China's money for over a century, and almost exclusively since the communists took power. Much of the money made

in Hong Kong is based on uninterrupted appreciation in its property market. However, with integration into China looming, the basis of wealth on display today is becoming less tangible. Smuggling, of anything from tigers' paws to dinosaur eggs, is rampant. Without doubt, someone is banking "dirty" money in the territory.

"We are at the upper end of the spectrum in terms of due diligence," said Mr Went, refusing even to hint at likely culprits. "I wouldn't like to say who they are — we've been in business 304 years, and you have to remember that you can blow it overnight, no matter how attractive the opportunities appear." A Courts client must have million, although, to be particularly attractive to the bank. liquid assets of \$5 million are nearer the mark. Assets managed by Coutts's two Asian offices, in Hong Kong and Singapore, are \$500 million, with total assets managed for Asian cli-

ents exceeding \$2 billion. Coutts is seen as a small player in the territory, and few of rivals divulge similar comparative details. All. however, protest innocence.

"It is a little bit tricky here in Asia because people don't like to show who they are, but that information is treated very confidentially and it has resulted in us never really ever having had any problems with dirty money," said Knut Reinertz, of Banque

Générale du Luxembourg. Max Gunthert, regional manager with the Credit Suisse private banking unit for East Asia, says: "It doesn't matter where the money is booked, we will apply rigid screening of clients here, and whether we refer to Zurich or London or Luxembourg, we

do the due diligence here. All the money we 6 In Asia . . . give out, whatpeople don't ever the locatlike to show we don't have first-rated offwho they shore centres. second-rated are 🤊 and so on - it's just clean

> private banking in the long run, there's only one approach - the professional approach."

Observers of the sector admit that Mr Went's remarks touched a nerve. "The threat of money laundering is very powerful in Hong Kong," said a James Capel analyst. "We are very worried about being tainted."

The problem for Hong Kong, another analyst said, is the need to find clients in an increasingly competitive market. The place is grossly overbanked," he said, "Some of the smaller Swiss banks are hungry for business -- so money is booked into Geneva, and Hone Kone is by-

passed altogether. It's all lost in a series of code numbers." Tracing any client would be nearly impossible, he said. and even banking experts steeped in the ways of the territory's unspoken financial freemasonry would be unaware of the conduits for Chinese money. "These people," he says, "are very smart."

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A MENDER OF THE CABLE & WIRELESS CROW

Feeling smug over Lloyd's

Sir, For the past few years your letters section has been swelled by comments about Lloyd's of London. Correspondence on this subject has accused, defended, expressed outrage, shown quiet resignation (rare), spluttered, analysed and pleaded.

I cannot recall, though, any letters which have been smug and I thought I should fill this

In 1983 I was invited to gain some understanding of the people to whom it was

future financial security. This request was greeted with surprise but appropriate

The accounting system and

16-19 year-olds.

become a name and, because I knew little about the market, I asked to meet a selection of active participants in order to proposed I should entrust my

arrangements were made. It took only a few discussions for me to develop strong reservations about becoming

any winds of change which might be blowing. financial controls of the brokers I met seemed such that I came apparent it was suggestnever did understand how ed that, if I agreed to increase auditors were persuaded to my proposed participation. I sign off their accounts. Undermight be offered a position on

Apprenticeships for craftsmen of the next decade people and employers are very methods. They are not about

From Mr James Paice, MP Sir, The plea from Mr T. P. Hartley (Business Letters, March 28) for "a return to the time serving. They offer an equal alternative, via the work-based route, to a qualifirigours of a formal system of cation that can lead on to higher education - if the apprentice training" is well apprentice wishes. Modern timed. The Government Apprenticeships will provide launched Modern Apprenticeships nationwide in Septemhighly trained craftsmen and women, technicians and juber of last year, and only recently they received enthusinior managers who are better astic endorsement from Sir Ron Dearing in his report on the education and training of

Modern Apprenticeships are based on frameworks designed by employers. They take the best aspects from the old-style apprenticeships and combine them with modern qualifications and learning

writers, those Masters of the

Universe at whose feet brokers

seemed to worship, appeared

to assess risks almost entirely

by reference to the past al-

though a few held up damp-

ened forefingers to try to detect

When my reservations be-

prepared and motivated to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Modern Apprenticeships cover 55 industrial and commercial sectors, including those that traditional apprenticeships never covered, such as information technology and business administration. All

the signs are that young a "baby syndicate". It was explained that such syndicates were run for the benefit of insiders and special friends; they were virtually risk-free

This, for me, was the clincher and I politely declined to

ness practices and standards. it, though. Yours faithfully, R.V. MUNDEN.

Lowton. Taunton, Somerset

Ashanti continues expansion with Australian miner

By Sarah Cunningham

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS. the Chanaian mining company in which Lonrho holds a large stake, has continued its buying spree with the acquisition of Australian-listed Golden Shamrock Mines for £290 million.

It is Ashanti's third acquisition since December and the largest so far. It underlines the determination of the com-pany, which is in the sights of Angle American Corporation. to remain independent.

GSM's most important asset is its 70 per cent The latest deal is being holding in the the Siguiri arranged as a share-swap

goldmine in Guinea, where a feasibility study, published last month, identified 2.37 million ounces of gold. The company, which is also listed in Toronto, also has a 70 per cent share in the Iduapriem goldmine in Ghana.

Ashanti last week made a £65 million agreed offer for International Gold Resources of Toronto. In December it bought Cluff Resources, the London-listed gold company with operations in Africa, for

hospitals and adolescent res-

idential units, with about

Mercury wants to buy

Priory because it is the

market leader and has

strong growth prospects. It plans to float the company

MAM bids £93m for healthcare group

By Eric Reguly

0141 221 2225 (Scotland)

or by fax to 0171 436 2581

Titleist

NEWS**track**

— OFFICÍAL SUPPLIERS -----

ed as negotiations with Mer-THE private equity arm of cury got underway. Founded in 1980. Priory has 15 Mercury Asset Management (MAM) yesterday offered to buy Priory Hospitals Group. Britain's largest private-sector provider of psychiatric services, for £93 million in cash. It is Mercury's first foray into the healthcare 700 beds. The company is profitable, though no financial details were available.

Community Psychiatric Centers of America, Priory's owner, said other potential buyers would not be excludmerger. GSM shareholders will receive one Ashanti ordinary share for every 22.5 GSM shares, which are valued at Aus\$1.37 (70p). GSM's board supports the merger which Australian courts will have to clear and which its shareholders will then vote on.

Ashanti intends to integrate GSM's West African assets into its own operations. GSM's Australian assets — a coppermine and gold and silver exploration interests will be sold off.

Analysts welcomed the deal and said that the price was in line with Ashanti's other acquisitions.

Ashanti's advisers said that the GSM had been high on its "shopping list" and that the results of the Siguiri feasibility study had prompted the offer. Analysts said that Ashanti's rapid expansion could make it appear less digestible and discourage the attentions of South Africa's Anglo American Corporation. The South African company

recently acquired 6 per cent of Lonrho, which owns 37 per cent of Ashanti, from Dieter Bock, Lonrho's chief executive. Mr Bock is to demerge the group's mining interests. Anglo American has first right of refusal on Mr Bock's remaining 18 per cent of Lonrho.



Tony Wardell watches as a model applies products that Swallowfield hopes to market under its own brand name

Swallowfield buoyed by exports

By Martin Barrow

SWALLOWFIELD, the contract manufacturer of branded and private label aerosols and cosmetics, said exports helped to drive profits to a new high in 1995, offsetting the impact of a difficult UK consumer market.

However, the company's Belgian sub-sidiary continued to trade at a loss despite a number of measures taken to restore profitability.

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS

CITROEN

from £2.56 million on sales that advanced to £37 million from £34.87 million. The company said new contracts were secured in Japan and Australia and non-UK sales now account for 27 per cent of

Swallowfield, which was formed through a buyout from Cadbury-Schweppes 10 years ago, embraces the companies of Aerosols International, Cosmetics Plus and Parbel, a Belgian

manufacturer. The group's management structure is being centralised to market the Swallowfield brand in preference to the separate companies. The company. whose managing director is Tony Wardell, believes Parbel can be restored to profit by the end of the current year.

Earnings rose to 13.8p a share from 13.3p. There is a final dividend of 3.8p a share, due May 31, lifting the total to 6.5p from 6.2p. The shares rose 3p to 164p.

meeting disrupted Two so-called ethical streakers" disrupted the first annual meeting of

Lloyds TSB

Lloyds TSB yesterday as part of a protest about the bank's stance on Third World debt. Several people were ejected from the meet-ing in Edinburgh's new conference centre. There were 'several' arrests among the 30 protesters. who were lead by Lloyds and Midland Boycott (LAMB). A Lloyds TSB spokesman said Sir Robin Ibbs, the company chairman, had offered to meet-LAMB in February.

French strike

France Telecom workers began a 24-hour strike yesterday to protest over plans for partial privatisation of the state-owned telephone monopoly. The unions decided on the walkout after the Government's announcement in March that it would begin changing France Telea state agency.

Rathbone up

Rathbone Brothers. the private banking group, increased 1995 pre-tax profits to £7.4 million from £6.2 million in 1994. Earnings were 21.3p a share, compared to 21p in the previous year. A final dividend of 6.5p a share, due May 24, lifts the total to 10p (9p).

Polypipe sale

Polypipe, the manufacturer of plastic pipe and fittings. has sold its Allerton Glass business to Magnet, a subsidiary of Beristord, for £7 million. The proceeds will be used to reduce debts. The book value of the net assets sold was E5.1 million at June 30, 1995. Polypipe has also signed a trading agreement with Magnet.

Barcom buy

Barcom has acquired Meadham Plant Company, a supplier of general contractors plant based in Winchester, for a maximum consideration of £2.5 million in cash and shares. In the year ended april 30, 1995, Meadhams earned pre-tax profits of El.04 million.

Slowdown

Singapore's economy is expected to slow down because ness costs and a strengthening currency, the Asian Development Bank said. The outlook for Singapore in the next two years is for a deceleration of growth toward its sustainable long run potential of 7 per cent to

Nurdin & Peacock forecasts squeeze

By Sarah Bagnall

NURDIN & PEACOCK, the from £16.5 million to £19.6 cash-and-carry operator which supplies more than a quarter of a million corner shops, yesterday predicted a shake-out in the wholesale

Richard Fulford, chairman, said: The industry will go through a period of consolidation in the next few years. We believe we will be well placed to benefit from this." He added that 1995 had been a very difficult year for the group and that conditions

He said the company was trying to combat these pressures by investing in information technology and central distribution in a bid to reduce

costs and improve margins. Mr Fulford's remarks came as he revealed a rise in pre-tax profits and exceptional items

Four-year

high for

oil prices

OIL prices rose to a four-anda-half year high of \$22.66 a

barrel yesterday as a rally

picked up steam after a brief

pause for breath. Analysts say

crude could rise further as

buyers in the West scramble to

rebuild depleted refined oil

particular petrol, might stay

firm for longer, crude would

probably start to reverse as

summer approaches and extra

While oil product prices, in

product inventories.

end of January.

million in the year to Decem-ber 29, N&P announced it had acquired G Thompson, which trades under the banner of Thompson Wholesale Foods, for E400,000.

Including net one-off items of £1.8 million, profits rose to (2).4 million. The exceptional profit was the net effect of the £7.3 million profit on the sale of the Cargo Club warehouses offset by £5.3 million of provisions. The provision, which follows a strategic review by chief executive in June, covers the cost of writing off surplus stock and certain unpaid supplier accounts.

Sales from continuing operations rose 8.5 per cent to £1.6 billion. The total dividend was lifted from 6.9p to 7.25p. The shares rose to to 1750.

8 per cent," the bank added. JP Morgan jumps

72% in first quarter FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

J P MORGAN, the US banking group, reported net in-come of \$439 million in the first quarter this year, a surge of 72 per cent over the same

period in 1995. Earnings per share for the quarter were \$2.13, against \$1.27 a year ago.

But first-quarter earnings last year included an after-tax charge of \$33 million, or 17 cents a share, related primarily to severance costs.

supplies come onstream. Douglas Warner, chair-man, said: "Growing opportu-After rising 63 cents yesterday, the widely traded Brent nities to put J P Morgan's worldwide capabilities to crude has recorded an overall gain of more than \$6 since the work for clients led to strong

first-quarter results." Marketmaking, investment banking, and investment management all produced substantial gains, he said.

Revenues totalled \$1.740 billion in the first three months. an advance of 25 per cent from last time's \$1.388 billion.

Net interest revenue declined 21 per cent, to \$396 million, reflecting lower re-turns from asset and liability management in the United States and a decrease in trading-related net interest revenue. Trading revenue rose to \$758 million from \$303

Daimler-Benz chief talks of 'further tough decisions' FROM A CORRESPONDENT

IN STUTTGART

BASED on a rise in firstquarter sales, Daimler-Benz, the industrial group, said yesterday it expects to show an operating profit this year.
In the first three months of 1996. Daimler's group sales rose 7 per cent to DM23.6 billion from an adjusted DM22 billion for that period last year. Manfred Gentz, chief financial officer, cautiously predicted a full-year sales increase of between 5

But Jürgen Schrempp, the company's chairman, gave warning that "further tough decisions still have to be taken in 1996" to reverse 1995's substantial loss and restore earnings to a satisfactory level. One tough decision previously announced was that Daimler would not pay investors a dividend for the 1995 business year, when the

and 10 per cent.



Schrempp: gave warning

group recorded a net loss of DM5.7 billion. The full-year operating loss was DM1.1

Daimler-Benz revealed yes-

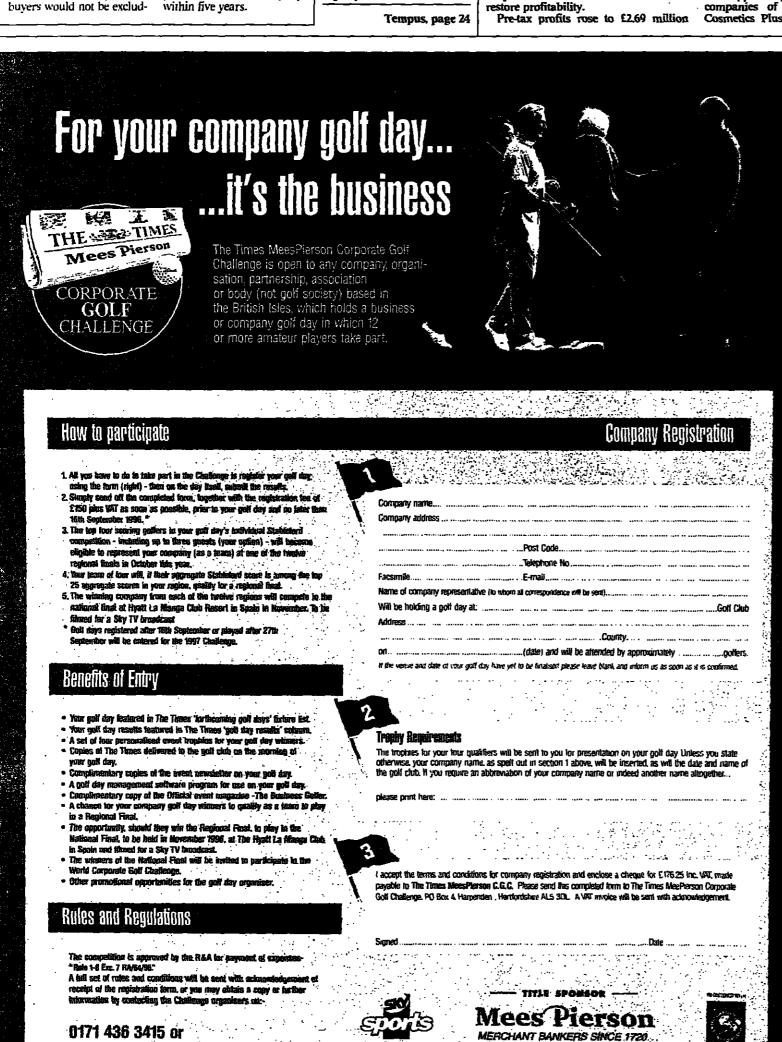
terday that its group sales last year rose just 0.8 per cent to DM 103.5 billion.

The net loss came mostly from the restructuring of Daimler's widespread opera-

tions, including the divest-ment of Fokker, the loss-making Dutch aircraftmaker. and the AEG electronics division. Although financial support to Fokker was ended in January, Daim-ler-Benz is allowed under German law to charge the costs to 1995. Separately, the Mercedes-

Benz luxury car subsidiary said revenues rose 7 per cent in the first three months of this year, reaching DM18.1 billion. Mercedes also reported that higher sales and costcutting had improved its final results for 1995, bringing a net profit of DM2.28 billion, up 23. per cent from 1994.

Daimler-Benz Aerospace said its first-quarter sales were up 6 per cent over the same period last year, reaching DM216 billion. The aerospace division said it expected "substantial improvement in earnings" this year after drop-



WATERFORD

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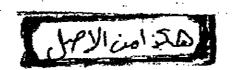
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OPERA 1

Music promoter Raymond Gubbay attacks our critic for his reaction to the Albert Hall Bohème



OPERA 2

... and Rodney Milnes defends his view of a "crummy and ill-organised"





MUSIC

A tour by the Warsaw Sinfonia launches public celebrations of Lord Menuhin's eightieth birthday



TOMORROW

Back in his Salad Days: Julian Slade reflects on the show that made him famous

Seconds out for a real fight at the opera

When The Times's chief opera critic, Rodney Milnes (below left), wrote a scathing review of an Albert Hall production of La Bohème mounted by Raymond Gubbay (right), classical music's most bullish impresario declared



that he had been sandbagged by an out-of-touch purist who resented all attempts to popularise the art form. "Nonsense!" Milnes retorted. "The plain fact is that this Bohème was no good." Nevertheless, the disagreement brings to the boil a row that

has been simmering for several years — about how far opera promoters can or should go in an attempt to produce "opera for the masses". Here, impresario and critic engage in a frank exchange of views about how "arena opera" should be staged — and reported



La Bohème at the Albert Hall: "Forty thousand people were happy." says the impresario. "They deserved better," says the critic

.'and you hate criticism'

'You hate me making money'

DEAR RODNEY,

"Rodney's in tonight." Those words, whispered backstage, are enough to cause even the strongest singer to blanch. What will the Jekyll and Hyde of the operation world, with your black or white reviews, make of the latest offering? I had understood only too well, having interpreted the runic symbols scattered by you over the preceding few weeks, that we vere in for a stinker. And to be fair, you didn't fail us. You perceived a threat to the operatic establishment, and what better way to assert your authority than by a total putdown in print?

It was a chance remark from one of your colleagues, "I cannot understand why Rodney went so over the top about La Bohème", which really set me thinking. It was you who had fought a rearguard action against the use of surtitles, and here you are again, blasting away at amplification. Operatic purism may hold you in good stead among the intendants of the world's opera houses but I doubt whether many of the 40,000 people who came to Bohème would have been happy without either surtitles or amplification.

Nothing about Bohème pleased you, right down to the supposedly uncommitted con-

ductor (could you see him reading the Beano in the pit?). I do not want to conduct a post mortem and anyone wanting to see a well-balanced counterpoint can look at Humphrey Burton's piece in the April issue of Classic FM magazine: "Raymond Gubbay's La Bohème at the Royal Albert Hall proves that arena opera can be exciting and give real value for money.

You suggested that the pro-

duction should have been given without any amplification. Yet how this could be made to work with a production given in the round is far from clear. Quoting specific isolated moments to justify your argument misses completely the point of how a wellbalanced sound can be obtained throughout the performance in all parts of the auditorium. The idea of amplifying any opera is one that appears to fill you with horror. yet you managed to sit through an amplified Turandot at Wembley four years ago without having to reach for your smelling salts. Where were you when the Royal Opera gave a concert performance (originally announced as being semi-staged) last May at the Royal Albert Hall of Un ballo in maschera which was amplified

Your readers will know that you regularly travel round the opera houses of Europe and America. You must have come across the use of amplification not only as at the Albert Hall, where we made no pretence about its use, but also in more covert situations where its use is sometimes disguised. Incidentally, why don't opera critics follow the convention of travel writers and tell us who has paid for the travel on each occasion — or is this just too revealing? The purist approach to opera aloneside the question of amplification are issues that need airing, but sadly you have refused to

emerge from your closet to debate these in public. Readers of The Times enjoy a wide range of music and entertainment and the adverreflect this. Theatre critics seem able to move between commercial West End productions and the subsidised theatres with no difficulty at all. Yet you are totally incapable of dealing rationally with anything put on commercially without reaching for the vitriol. The thought of anyone trying to make money out of music seems beyond your comprehension, yet you cheerfully support unquestioningly subsidised organisations which pay out much larger amounts on artists' and conductors' fees. Opera in this country is

underfunded, but so are schools, hospitals and much else. Yet when Covent Garden fails to make adequate contingency plans for its closure period and now looks set to lead a nomadic existence round an odd collection of rag. tag and bobtail venues which happen to be available to them, you seem content to sit back complacently, watching it all happen instead of taking the lead by asking the necessary penetrating questions as to how such a situation could ever have arisen.

On February 6 next year. you - as a respectable member of the Establishment will no doubt be remembering the 45th anniversary of the Queen's accession. I, on the other hand, will be at the first night of my next Albert Hall opera. Sorry, I cannot yet disclose its name, as we have not made any formal announcement, but I will give you a clue: it is set somewhere in southwest Europe and there's a bullfighter and ... but no, I do not want to give too much away. The "nation's village hall" will be playing host to a new show - and you.

I hope, will be far, far away. RAYMOND GUBBAY

DEAR RAYMOND.

How nice to hear from you. It's right that promoters and journalists should maintain a dialogue, though preferably at a slightly more positive level. But why did you wait for so long before writing? For heaven's sake, your dreary Bohême happened weeks ago now. I've had a happy time speculating about who's been winding you up, and it's generous of you to drop the odd clue in your

You probably waited for so long in the hope that readers would have forgotten what I wrote, and so accept your slyly partial version. Now, amplification does not fill me with horror - remember my cheerful reactions to the joint Gubbay-Royal Opera Turandot at Wembley, which worked. Singers have done without amplification at the Albert Hall since it was built. and thank you for reminding me that it was Pavarotti who broke that tradition last year (I hope you don't take Pavarotti as a role model in other respects). Glyndebourne does without it on the Albert Hall

platform every year.

But you decide to do Boheme in the round, and use this as an excuse for amplification. Sorry, a little company called Nexus Opera did Curlew River in the round in 1986, and no amplification was review) to point these things needed. Of course, Nexus Opera employed a proper director (Ronald Eyre), which you didn't. I forebore to name the unfortunate director you engaged, of whom few had

heard and few will, and who seemed further to use amplification as an excuse for crummy, ill-organised direction. There is no need for a debate on amplification. It is either well done, as it is at the National, at West End the-

> and of course at your Wernbley Turandot; or it is badly done, very badly at the first night of your Boheme. There is no need for a debate about arena opera: it works if it is well done, as at Verona. Wembley, or the Earls Court Carmen — ie, properly directed and rehearsed; it doesn't work if it is tackily done. My objections to your Bohème were not that it was in the round, not that it was amplified, not that it was surtitled, but because by well-established artistic standards it was undercast, poorly directed and

> atres (sometimes), indeed (de-

spite denials) at the Coliseum,

under-rehearsed. Those 40,000 people deserved better. It must be galling for you that there are journalists (I wasn't the only one, and you had to reach deep down into the barrel to find a favourable

out. How nice it would be and there are people at your hated Covent Garden who agree, along with Sir Cliff Richard — if putting on opera were a straight marketing process between manufacturer and consumer, with no tiresome interference from a journalistic consumers' association. Bad luck, that isn't the way it is, yet. So you lash out with a grubby personal attack. So I'm incapable of dealing rationally with anything put

on commercially? What about

my good-natured review of

your concert Fledermaus at

the Barbican? I sit back com-

placently watching the col-lapse of Covent Garden? You obviously don't read Opera magazine. And your snide insinuation about foreign travel? Sorry, ducky, you've got the wrong hack. I actually enjoy going to opera, and most of those trips that the arts editor doesn't send me on I pay for myself, doubtless to the bemusement

of the Times management.

They're called holidays. In the end, I suppose this is all about me getting caught in the crossfire of the war between you and the Royal Opera. Something horrible must have happened when you collaborated on that Turandot. In the build-up to

your Bohème. you seemed virtually to take over the feature pages of the national press, promoting whiter-thanwhite, cheap (!) Gubbay operafor-the-people versus nasty, elitist, expensive Covent Garden, with little reference to why Covent Garden was expensive. The day you put on things matching the professional know-how, built up over 50 years, that we take for granted at Covent Garden is in earnest. The seat prices for your Boheme were marginally less than those for the Colise um, and more than those for an outstanding Bohėme at Opera North a few weeks before - doubly galling.

Your attempt to label me as a pillar of the Establishment will cause great merriment to be interesting to see if the arts editor sends me to your Carmen next year, foiling my natural inclination to sit at home wallowing in royalist sentiment. Talking of which. one image of your Boheme haunts me still: seeing you in the interval standing in a Grand Tier box with waxwork solenunity next to the Princess of Wales. Aha, I thought. doubtless unworthily, that's why we're all here.

RODNEY MILNES

Benign start to birthday

CONCERT

Warsaw Sinfonia/ Menuhin Barbican

READING a biographical note for Lord Menuhin, you are struck by the thought that his achievements and honours - including no fewer than 30 doctorates - would be enough to furnish a curriculum vitae for each member of a modestsized orchestra. In an extraordinary career already lasting more than seven decades, he has gained countless admirers and friends, and probably fewer enemies than any other professional musician.

The affection in which he is held was clear from Tuesday's se concert with the Warsaw Sinfonia, an ensemble he was ainstrumental in founding in ■ The 1980s, Menuhin celebrates his eightieth birthday this month but shows no sign of flagging. He has recently committed to disc a complete Beethoven cycle with these players, and the Third Symphony (Eroica) was the main work in Tuesday's pro-

gramme. The tide of support comes

not only from the audience but also from the orchestra. That conductor Menuhin has rarely stamped his authority on his interpretations in the way he did as a violinist. It is partly a question of technique -Menuhin's vigorous arm movements hardly amount to a beat - but partly, I feel, a matter of temperament. The vast fund of humanity in the man brings forth perfor-mances that are benign and

sheer aggression. The harsher aspects of the Eroica were not realised, and I felt short-changed, too, by some of the grander moments, which needed more space to expand. But there was also a good deal to admire the carefully graded climaxes of the Funeral March compelled attention, as did its desolate ending; the trio of horns in the middle section of the Scherzo shaped their phrases beautifully; and the Scherzo itself was articulated with clarity.

equable, lacking grit and

The soloist in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4 in G major was, appropriately, a graduate of the Yehudi Menuhin School: R. Hyung-Ki Joo. He brought a freshness of approach that inclined one to overlook the handful of minor inaccuracies. In particular, I relished the individual handling of the cadenzas and the spontaneity of the repartee between soloist and orchestra in the finale. That joy in communication is all too rare in professional music-making.

Flight of the

Bobby Previte Purcell Room

THE American drummer/ composer Bobby Previte accounts for his current compositional style - a heady, lively mix of jazz, avant-rock and minimalism — by pointing to the suddenness of his exposure to music other than pop. Growing up in Niagara Falls, he believed not only that the dull roar of the waterfall was "just the sound made by the world" but also that the music he heard on Top 40 radio served a similar function. What he describes as "two forces crashing at the same time - jazz from Mingus and Miles Davis and the Western avant-garde in people such as John Cage and Lou Harrison" thus had a profound and

clearly long-lasting effect. Previte's pieces were played on this, his second British visit as a leader, by his seven-piece. horn-led band known as Weather Clear, Track Fast. Although at times relying heavily on the improvising skills of his band members particularly those of trombon-MILLINGTON ist Curtis Hasselbring and

saxophonist/bass darinettist Andrew d'Angelo — Previte's music differs from conventional jazz in its departure from the usual form of theme ment. It differs from rock not only in its instrumentation but also in its rhythmic adventurousness. Its extraordinary dynamic and textural range similarly distinguish it from Thus one of his composi-

tions might begin with electric

bassist Lindsey Homer playing whistle over Previte's rattling conga drums, continue with a folkish skirl on bass clarinet and flute, and proceed by way of a call-and-response passage between alto and trombone on the one hand and trumpet on the other to a chattering percussive climax involving the entire septet playing assorted pieces of Previte's drumkit. Or - as in Smack-dab — it might simply set up a bustling rhythm over which Cuong Vu's trumpet slowly builds to a rousing climax. Or again — as in the encore, To Air - the entire band could end up humming a stately, anthemic melody before subsiding dramatically into a sudden close-harmony

vocal ending. If drawing from such a plethora of musical styles occasionally renders Previte's compositions a mite bewildering, he can live with it: Things just sail by in front of my nose; I watch them, and maybe I'll follow them a little bit. This is a wide world; I've no use for provincialism."

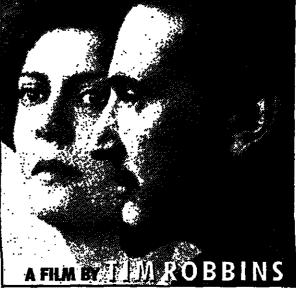
CHRIS PARKER

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CHOICE 1

The Birtwistle festival opens with The Mask of Orpheus VENUE: Tonight at

the Festival Hall



CHOICE 2

Actor of the moment, Ken Stott, stars in Le Roi s'amuse

tomorrow. Olivier Theatre

VENUE: In preview from

THE



■ THEATRE 1

Doris Day's reputation is done few favours by the anodyne new musical at the King's Head



THEATRE 2

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The bed's the thing, it seems, as the RSC brings Vanbrugh's The Relapse to the Barbican

LONDON

BUSTWISTLE IN BUILK: The Secret istie begins loday with a somicanada Depriormance of his monumental lync opera The Mask of Orphaus (7pm). Andrew Davis conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the cast Symphony Ucressal and the cast includes Jon Garrison, Jean Rigby, Anne-Mane Owens and Alan Opes. Other opening events include a live Radio 3 broadcast of in Tune (6 15pm) and a music theatre performance, inspired by The Mask from students of North Washimeter Community School. and members of the BBCSO (5.45pm). South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight-May 4 🖺

THE PRINCE'S PLAY: Ken Stott plays the Rigoletto role in Victor Hugo's Lo Rol s'Amuse transposed to Victorian London by Tony Hermson, with the Prince of Wales as the cool philanderer Richard Eyre directs,
National (Claver), South Bank, SE1
(0171-928 (252) Previews begin
tomonow, 8pm Then Apr 15-18,
7 15pm; opens Apr 19, in rep EVENTS AT THE BARBICAN. TH EVENTS AT THE BARBICANT. The lourth amual Contemporary Print Show opens a busy weekend here, followed by the first concert in a Sibelius Symphony Weekend from the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra. Brass Without Sturfys: into theme of tomorrow's matrice, with Michael Tilson. Thomas among the conductors for the

□ BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH:
Award-winning first play from yet another trish produgy. Jimmy Murphy's come tragedy of these Dublin house painters pitted against each other by their demanding boss. A Soho Theetre Co co-production directed by Rough Magic's Lyme Parker.
Artis. Great Newport Street, WC2 (017)-838 33341, Mon-Fn, 7 30pm. Sat, 5 30 and 8 30cm.

[] COMPANY: Adnan Lesler, Sheila

Gish, Sophie Thompson in an ercellen staging of Sondheim's bittersweet. • musical on marnage, pro and contra. Albery, SI Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-

369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mats Wed and Sal. 3pm

STHE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) The RSC : (Reduced

Shakespeare Company) popular, potty rough-handling of the Bard. The Complete History of America (abinoged)

otay: Tues Criterion, Piccedity Circus, W1 (0171-369 1737) Wed-Sat, 8pm, Mats Thurs, 2pm Sat, 5pm and Sun, 4pm (2)

[] JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT Print Scholield plays the lad with the pretty jack of maintenance froward of the first than the protection of the protection o

Labett's Apollo, Queen Caroline Street Hammermath, W6 (0171-416)

BROKEN ARROW (15) John Travolta steats nuclear weapons, Christian Stater mes to get mem back Bumphous and braniless action move.

Oricided by John Woo MGM Chelson (0171-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Marbie Arch (01426 91430) 13 wiss Cottage (01426 91493) West End (01426-915 574) UCI Whiteleys (6)

◆ CITY HALL (15): Something's notion n the cay of New York, eyest cath A

Pacino es Mayor Watchable drama with John Cusack, Bridget Fonda and Danny Alelio Director, Harold Becker MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) UCI

NELLY AND MONSIEUR ARNAUD

ubile tale about an older man and

younger woman, with Michel Serrault and Emmanuelle Beart. Curzem Nayfair (0171-369 1720) Gate (0171-727 4043) Filchmond (0181-332

MIGHTY APHRODITE (15): Woody

Oki Internes, socialistica (National Socialistica) (Na

Allen searches for his adopted son's natural mother, Engaging variation or old thernes, with Oscar winner Mira

(PG) Claude Sautet's marvellous

0030) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Hill (0171-435 3366)

West End (0171-437 4343)

6092) Tue-Sar, 7.30pm mats Thurs and Sat 3pm

NEW RELEASES

directed by John Woo

5 30 and 8 30 pm

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

London Symphony Brass and the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, and Lady Soft the nanetor Barbison, Sift Street, ECZ (0171-638 88911 (5)

ELSEWHERE CHELTENHAM: Andy Sheppard begins a varied programme at this weekend's lazz Feetfival, performing with both his group Small Co-Motion and the Begins Big Band Stephene Groppell and ECM guitarist Ralph Towner are arrong the names appearing tomorrow, white Sunday belongs to George Farne, Martin Taylor and the funky Ray Brown Thio.

Box Office Town Hall and Everyman (1):242 (227979). Today-Sun

LIVERPOOL New Contempore
96 — one of the most important
exhibitions of student and recent graduate work in Britain — is relaunche t the Tate tomorrow For music enthusiasis, Alexander Lazarev conducts the Royal Liverpool Philihenmonic Orchestra in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 5

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessmen of theetre showing in London ■ House full, returns only Some seats available

Seats at all prices

 An IDEAL MUSEAND: Trumphant return for Pater Hall's production of Wilde's drama of political skeaze and scandal The star cast includes Marian Shaw, Anna Carteret, Fennis Downie Theatre Royal, Haymarkot, SW1 (0171-930 8800), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat. 3pm. (5)

☐ MRSS JULE Polly Teale directs Susan Lynch in the title role of Strindberg's drama of erotic doorn, with John Hermah and Cara Kelly gwing especially strong performances. Young Vic, The Cur, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Mon-Sal, 7 30pm, mai Sat 3 30pm 📳

PRESENT LAUGHTER Peter Bowles plays Coward's exaggerated sell-portrait. Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-379 3367) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs 3pm and Sat. 4pm

☐ SKYLIGHT Outstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lia Williams in David Hare's dramatisation of society's

LONDON GALLERIES
British Museum Okyo and Kyoto partings, final week (0171-636 1555) ... Courteutle Drawings by Thomas Gainstorough (071-635 228) Leigition Mouse: A Home with Lord Leighton (0171-633 9115) ... National Gallery: Old Master paintings from Rome's Dorie Pamphil Gallery (0171-747 2885) ... National Portrait Gallery: Paces of the 80s (0171-306 0056) ... Richard Gavier: 14 paintings by LS Lowry (1071-493 3939) ... Regular Academy: Gustave Callebothe (0171-493 7438) ... Serpendine: Jean-Michel Basquist paintings (0171-723 9171-727 Tatle: Cézanne; Bill Woodrow's statuss (0171-887 8000) ... V & A. The Leighton Frescoes: Design Nove: San Lorenzo Silversmiths Studio, Millan (0171-938 8500) conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion between two lovers. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Mon-Sat, Spin;

(sokest John Lill) and Shostakovich's Fourth Symphony. Tate, Liverpool Read (2) (0151-709 3223). Tue-Sun, 10am-6pm. Until May 27. Philinamonis Hell, Hope Street (3)

(0151-709 3789). Sat. 7.30pm.

LEICESTER: Linda Marlowe directs

LEICESTER: Linda Markowa directs har second Frantz Awer Kreetz play hare: a gitery assembly-ine worker, its vague wife and their silently observant teerage con andure a burdensome larrily life in Menseh Medie: Heymarket Shallo, Balgrave Gate (0116-253 9797). Previews begin tonight-Mon. 7.45pm. Opens Apr. 16, 7.45pm. Then Mon. Sat., 7.45pm. 63

LONDON GALLERIES

mat Sal 3pm IN TOWNY Hugely impressive staging of the traumatised child's apotheosis to purball world. Shafinabury, Shafinsbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mas Wed and Sat, 3pm. (2)

☐ TWELVE ANGRY MENT The 12 actors include Peter Vaughan, Timothy West and Kevin Whately, and Harold Priter directs: Reginald Rose's justly celebrated july-room drama. Connedy. Partion Street SW1 (0171-369 1731) Now previewing, 7 45pm; mats Wed, 2 30pm and \$31, 4pm. Opens Apr 22, 7pm

LONG RUNNERS Baddy Strand (0171-930 8800) Communicating Doors: Savoy (0171-836 8888). Don't Dress for Dinner: Duchess (0171-494 5070) District Volumes (0171-839 3401)

District Money Playhouse (0171-839 4401)

District Volume Palace (0171-834 317).

District Missers (0171-835 1443).

District Playhouse Residence (0171-835 1443).

District Residence Addition (0171-835 1443). Sunset Boulevard: Adelph (0171-344 0055) ... The Woman in Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238) Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol v) on release across the country

915353) Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Phoenix (0181-883 2233) Screen/ Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT ◆ DEAD MAN WALKING (15) Oscar winner Susan Sarandon visits Sean Ponn on Death Row Powerful, carefully ralanced drama about capital ounshment Orectos Ton Robinio punishment, Unector, 1 and Robbins MGMs: Belier Street (0171-935 9772) Pulham Road (5) (0171-370 2635) Fullmant Hoda (g. (0171-336 5279) Shaffasbury Avenue (0171-836 5279) Odeon Kensington (01426 914666) Phoenix (0181-833 2233) Remoir (0171-837 8402 Rilay (0171-737 2121) UCI Whitoleys (g. (0171-792 3332) Warmer (g. (0171-437 4343)

◆ GET SHORTY (15) John Travolta's loanshark takes on the movie busin Entertaining but trivial correctly from Erwind Gutwa Cyready, Your Erwore Leonard's novel, Director, Barry Somenield With Danny De Vito, Gene Hackman, Rene Russo, Delroy Lindo Chapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Empire (0171-437 1234) MGMss: Fullham Road (0171-370 2638) adero (§) (0171-434 (0031) Odeon us Cottage (01426 914096) UCI (eleys (§) (0171-792 3332)

• DUNSTON CHECKS IN (PG) Orang-uten causes havoc in a live-star hotel Perky tarrity comedy with Jason Alexander, Rupert Everett and Fave Dunaway Director, Ken Kwapis. U**CI Whiteleys (3** (0171-792 3332)

MARJA Arteoretises of Describate ensure. Acceptuses of Unicode. So offspring in New York. Any but effective homor firm from US independent Michael Almoreyda. With Elina no Picture House (0171-498 3323) ICA (5) (0171-930 3647) MGM Tothenham Ct Rd (0171-636 6148)

SWIMMING WITH SHARKS (15) Jet

George Huang MGMs: Fulham Road 👸 (0171-370) 2636) Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Tottenham Ct Rd (0171-636 6148) STRANGE DAYS (18) Uncomfortable apocalyptic drama, with Ratph Flemmes as a trafficker in virtual reality. With Angela Bassett MGM Trocadero (\$) (0171-434 (0031)

 TOY STORY (PG); Computer-animated Disney delight with a cast of animated pushey designt wan a cash frettul toys. Barbkom (§) (0171-638 8891) Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) Clapham Pichare (01/1-498 3323) MGM Cheleas (017-362 5096) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914566) Leteater Sq (01426-915 683) Rib (0171-254 6677) Riby (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0171-792 3332) Whip crack away? No way

ack in 1924 a sunbeam fell in love with the Sugar Plum Fairy, and the result of their That was what I believed when I gurgled along with her songs in my playpen, and that is pretty much what I shall go on believing after seeing Leo P. Carusone and Patty Carver's tribute to the lady. Certainly, their show is not aimed at anyone hoping to discover a Doris who kneecaps her rivals or firebombs Welcome Wagons, or does anything odd and original. This is Doris Day, not the fiery amazon

THEFTE. **Definitely Doris**

King's Head, NI

celebrated in a classic Guardian misprint, Doris Godunov. Actually, she was born Doris von Kappelhoff in Cincinnati, a city famous for being Cincinnati. The two-woman, three-man cast interrupt the musical flow to confide her original identity to us, along with several even less interesting facts. The hair on her arms stands up when she hears a song she wants to sing. She collects brooms, although manifestly not to fly on. The only role she had played before becoming a film star was a duck in Mother Goose. She sometimes goes to bed covered in Vaseline. She believes in predestination. She adores animals, especially dogs, who (a statement we must not examine too deeply) have taught her what she knows about

love, fundamental love". She has also been married rather often, a fact over which the show's creators tactfully skim, lest it compromise her songs' propaganda for mo-nogamy, not to say monotony. The world they evoke is one in which you walk down the street ("a great feeling") smiling at folks who smile at you. fun means having a chocolate sundae on Saturday night, a kiss at the door leads irretrievably to marriage, and love is forever". True, that was the 1950s, or the 1950s for those who were very, very dim and living in suburban America but, oh, for an hour of Piaf!

I suspect others in the audience felt the same, for there was a cheer when Lori Haley Fox injected a bit of

THIS production divided my

colleagues when it opened t vear's season at the Swan in Stratford, persuading one of them that Ian Judge's direction was "wittily knowing" while another dismissed it as "deeply ordinary". I am in the former camp myself, although there are times when the wit, if not the knowingness, goes into hiding for a while and I caught myself counting the candles: sure sign that impatience is

Three of the chief parts have been recast for the transfer, and some other changes may have occurred. almost certainly to Jonathan Goldstein's music, which caused some annoyance a year ago but now seems too

beginning to climb.

"The world they evoke is one in which you walk down the street smiling at folks who smile at you, fun means having a chocolate sundae on Saturday night, and a kiss at the door leads irretrievably to marriage" unDorisy exasperation into the wellknown number about the nice guy who pursues a good girl to the altar "like I knew he would". But the cast is considerably more into idolatry than into irony. They collectively sing to life the Day who enjoyed April in Paris, once had a secret love, cried "whip crack away" from a stagecoach, wanted to be teacher's pet, got bewitched, bothered and bewildered, and, asked by some idiot whether there would be rainbows day after day, replied: "Che sera, sera!"

When they get to a good number -

Love Me or Leave Me, for instance, or Sentimental Journey - the cast does full justice to it. The twin troubles are that too many songs seem dull and samey and that the prose between them is worse. There is, so to speak, plastic wood holding together the plastic wood. In particular, what's the point of giving so much airtime to fans who, on the evidence of their letters, stand in the same intellectual relation to Doris

as Doris does to Kierkegaard? We hear from twins who clean out their Doris Day Den three times a week and from a stand-in-for-whom momentarily standing in for Doris's stand-in in the film Romance on the High Seas was "the most incredible experience of my entire life".

It was, I think, during this last epistle that I found myself wondering why four members of the cast were wearing blue shoes and the other black. I had, after all, to find some way of staying stimulated.

BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE**

love of the bedroom

innocuous to notice. However, the bed is still in a position of prominence, reminding us that manoeuvring the opposite sex between the sheets is the main concern of almost everyone in this seamy William 'n' Mary world.

Either the union will bring with it a dowry, which is why Lord Foppington and his indigent brother, Young Fashion, are in pursuit of young Hoyden. Or it satisfies the lust to take someone's wife or husband away from the married partner.

In Vanbrugh's text only one scene undoubtedly takes place in a bedroom, but Judge The Relapse Barbican Pit

rolls the same bed with different covers, into the action whenever he can stretch the dialogue to accommodate the thing.

Sometimes this is deverly done, as when Leigh Lawson, giving the roving Loveless the look of a cheat almost from the beginning, is discovered propped among the pillows ostensibly praising his humble country hideaway. But, on the words, "Here, in this little soft retreat," he places a hand

his somewhere near Amanda's thigh, and the words take on a less innocent meaning. However, in later scenes

Judge's judgment is at fault when male visitors are brought into a bedroom where the women are en deshabille. Pushing the virtuous Amanda on to her bed, Michael Gardiner's Worthy all but rapes her, and yet, surprisingly, the vibrato murmur in Kate Duchêne's protest does make one believe she has the power to recall him to

Victor Spinetti, sporting a periwig as large as a newly

killed sheep, is good at showing Lord Foppington's determishaps that would lesser men into a hermitage, but he doesn't look as though he honestly wants the women he ogles. His great love is himself but this does not prevent him from lusting after

the women, and we should

feel this is so.

The production, sponsored by Allied Domeca, is nothing truly extraordinary but it has its pleasures, notably Lorraine Ashbourne's deliriously funny Hoyden, in whose uninhibited arm-waving society manners have no hope of triumphing over sexual excitement.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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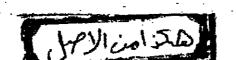
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Section 1

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POP 1

Former hellraiser Paul Westerberg now has a taste for nothing more life-threatening than a good cigar



POP 2

Simple emotions, simply expressed: you can't beat the schmaltzy ballads of the ever poised Lionel Richie





POP 3

Cocteau Twins maintain their mystique on Milk& Kisses, an album that inhabits a world of its own



هد امن الاعلى

POP 4

The Beloved continue to peddle their shallow brand of blissed-out dance music on their latest, X

Too fast to live, too old to die

David Sinclair talks to rehabilitated

rock 'n' roller Paul Westerberg

6 Rock is

vaudeville:

they pay

money and

you play

the fool 9

about drugs, death, hellraising and the joys of a quiet evening in

ock stars do not often break down and cry in interviews with journalsists they have never met before. And Paul Westerberg, one of the most noted hellraisers of his generation, is the last person you would imagine to be an exception.

Leader of the enormously influential and perpetually under-theinfluence American group the Replacements from 1979 to 1990, Westerberg has lived the swaggering, staggering, rock n'roll life-style to the hilt. Now, on the eve of

the release of his secand solo album, Eventually, he is a sober. 36-year-old man with a taste for nothing more life-threatening than French cigars. He is, however, still counting the cost of his former band's excesses, specifically the drug-related death in February 1995 of gui-

tarist Bob Stinson "I knew this would happen sooner or lat-

er," he says, jaw quivering as he same way. I wanted to make this removes his shades for the first time during our interview, and wipes the tears from his eyes with the sleeve of his black suit. "I've been able to keep the lid on it until now, but . .

"I go back and look at some of the press before he died and I remember a quote which said, 'What's supposed to happen is that one of us dies because that's what they want. We all knew that Bob was on the highway to hell. Even before we split up, he was out of the band through drug abuse that was even beyond what the rest of us were doing. He was not a stable man. He needed help and he never really got

what he needed." Westerberg has written a song for his lost friend, a desperately poignant ballad called Good Day with a chorus that goes, "A good day is any day that you're alive".

I never thought I would make a statement like that, but we change. I don't look forward to playing it live," he says, recovering his com-posure at last, and even raising a

Good Day is one of 12 new compositions on Eventually that confirm Westerberg's enduring starus as one of the great, unrecognised heroes of rock n' roll. His writing style combines poetic intimacy and humour with an authoritative, rhythmic cool in a way that recalls the work of greats such as Ray Davies and Keith Richards. The new album is a mellower and more rounded collec-

tion than his sensa-tional debut, 14 Songs, released in 1993, although tracks such as Ain't Got Me and Had It With You recall the raucous spirit of old.

"I was very relaxed about the writing and the pace at which ! recorded this album, and I think that's reflected in the songs. And I chose a batch of songs that all felt the

album easier and more accessible than 14 Songs." If Westerberg is now actively looking for a taste of commercial

success, you can hardly blame him. After all, he has been knocking on the door for 16 years. Born in the last few hours of 1959, and brought up in Minneapolis, he came from a large family that numbered both musicians and alcoholics among its young Westerberg's passion for both music and booze. He was never pushed to be a high achiever. which he now believes made him try all the harder to make something special of his life.

The Replacements sprang out of the same Minneapolis hardcore punk scene that spawned Hüsker Du, another of the great, unsung influences on latterday American rock, and later, Soul Asylum. Taking their cue from the New York Dolls, the Mats (as the Replacements were known) became renowned for their raucous,



his shades on - "All I wanted to do was play rock 'n' roll, but I've grown a little tired of it'

ragged brand of garage-band rock and notorious for their royally drunken displays of craziness on and off stage. But thanks to Westerberg's exceptional ear for a gems such as Left of the Dial, I'll Be You. Skyway and Alex Chilton they always seemed to promise

so much more Around the time of the fourth album, Let It Be, things were really rolling. Everyone was saying we were headed for the top. For a while we were the coolest band in America. We thought, 'We're going to be rich in a couple of years, and

then two years later the crowds are thinning out and you suddenly realise that that was your heyday." In fact the Replacements' most successful album was Don't Tell a

Soul, released in 1989, which sold about 350,000 copies. But by then the combination of hard slog and even harder partying over so many years had taken its toll.

aires and we would still have been sick of each other. We played our last gig on July 4, and it just dawned on everyone. Yeah, I guess we're done, aren't we?" ".

It is a cautionary tale and one that Westerberg admits he is lucky to be around to tell. He lives quietly now and spends most of his evenings reading.

"Everyone knows it takes a lot to get me out. What do you do when you go to a club? If you're not going to pick up a girl or get drunk, it cuts

down the fun, really." So is rock'n'roll — as lan

Hunter so memorably expressed it in his valedictory song Ballad of Mott - a losers' game?

"It depends what you want out of it. If you want people to admire you money, you can do all that. But if you want to touch people, it's harder to do.

"Performing rock 'n' roll is just vaudeville; they pay money and you play the fool. All my early life all I wanted to do was play rock n roll, but I've grown a little fired of it. Why can't you play rock n' roll on Friday night and go out to dinner with your family on Saturday night? I can play the music but I don't have to live the lifestyle any more."

• Eventually is released by Warner Bros on April 29

The white heat of technophobia

Strangelove are a band with a future. Which is great for their lead singer

Patrick Duff, a man with quite a past

atrick Duff, on stage, exudes the kind of electricity that the black-browed Paganini was supposed to have generated, but with a noncy violin rather than huge, grating Stratocasters and the deathrumble of overloading bass. When Duff snaps "How could 1 possibly explain/My hatred of you", he shines with a malice that dims the spotlight on him. When he convulses against his guitar, the first 20 rows swoon. When my sister made momentary eye-contact with him back-

stage last year, she almost fainted, and spent the rest of the evening with her pu-pils wildly dilated. whispering "He looked at me . . . me!" And rarely

something so bound up in the glory of the moment, his urgency travels on to record too. Hysteria Unknown, the second single from his band, Strangelove, is - and I know I am occasionally prone to exagger-

ation, but this is the simple, objective truth — one of the greatest singles ever recorded. Three-and-a-half minutes of wildly spiralling guitars, uncom-

fortably passionate, painfully restless: finding momentary release in serried ranks of doubletracked Duffs repeating the words, "Hysteria unknown", as his primary vocals urgently cry, "Go anywhere/That's far away/Lie quietly down and die in shame", before launching themselves back into the confusion. Hysteria Unknown is an extra bonus B-side to Strangelove's new single, Living with the Human Machines. And it's not the best thing on there.

"Machines make me shudder: I can't be doing with them," Duft explains, twisting uneasily in his chair. "My flatmate has an answerphone, but I won't touch it. Computers - I'll never get my head around them. Imagine pouring what's in your mind into something plastic and metal - 1

find that vaguely revolting.
"I can't believe that people invite these contraptions into their houses. It's like trying to domesticate lions - they'll always be at odds with you, you can never tame them. Of course, I plug in my guitar to a machine,

and I sing into a machine, but at least there's something human there. I can mess it up, make it mine. Most humans are essentially lonely anyway - why try and keep us further apart with these electric partitions?" Duff shivers. "When you walk the streets, and start counting up the machines that surround you. you realise technology - steel and nickel and alloy and wire and electricity - outnumbers

humans by ten to one. "The world's gradually becoming binary, black and white we're eradicating doubt and areas of leniency. It's all either

fact or fiction, true or false. And humans thrive on the unexplained; the gaps that you can fill with unclassifiable things like song, prose, poetry, conversation and love. And when all those areas have been paved over and wired up, humanity will disappear." This revulsion translates to the sin-

MORAN

gle, a Nick Cave-esque plea to the skies with a needling violin that puts the teeth on edge as Duff hollers his despair and doubt.

Patrick has had a lot of time to ponder humanity's foibles spending ten weeks in rehab. away from televisions, newspapers, books, friends and music tends to concentrate the mind wonderfully. "I was, am, an alcoholic. Since I went to rehab I feel like I've been reborn - but not in that horrible New Age Californian way. It's like I'm doing everything for the first

"Half of me wanted to show off, wanted to perform, wanted to be famous - and the other half thought that was immodest. So I drank. If I was drunk that was an excuse, a reason for being like I was. Now I have no excuses - everything I do is because I want to. I have to take responsiblity for my actions. But

it's cool. "It's like living your life twice, as different people. I've been the drunken, obnoxious Patrick. And now I get to do my life again as the sober, reasoned Patrick."

• The single, Living with the Human Machines, is out now on Food Records. The album, Love and Other Demons, follows in June

NEW ALBUMS: Lionel Richie steers a course through familiar waters after a decade on the beach

The Commodore gets a bit wet

Louder than Words

(Mercury 532 241) IT has been ten years since Lionel Richie's last new album. Dancing on the Ceiling, a leisurely rate of output even for a former Motown superstar. But, unlike the comparably sporadic releases of Stevie Wonder and Michael Jackson, Louder than Words arrives without fuss or fanfare, confirming Richie's curiously undervalued status among the heavy hitters of black American pop.

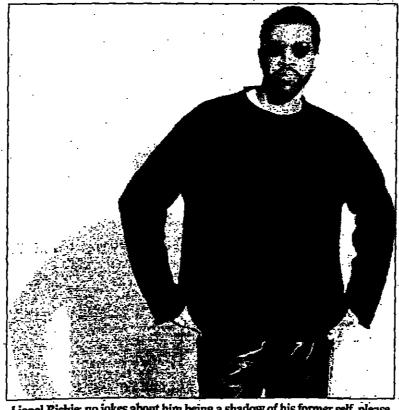
A performer who habitually plays well within his game, Richie continues to write and perform songs that deal in simple emotions simply expressed. Most levels of meaning within his lyrics can be gleaned from the titles alone - Can't Get Over You, Don't Wanna Lose You, Now You're Gone, Still in Love - and there is a gentle but persistent bias in favour of safe, schmaltzy ballads.

But it is when Richie attempts something a little more adventurous such as the strangely aching vocal and crazy funk bass line of Change or the high-rolling jazz swing of Lovers at First Sight - that you get a tantalising glimpse of what the man is truly

THE WALKABOUTS Devil's Road

(Virgin 724384134921) CONVENED in Seattle 12 years ago and signed to the Sub Pop label for six years, the Walkabouts nevertheless seem to have been completely unaffected by the rise and fall of grunge. Their music is rooted in the baroque, storytelling tradition of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and it is no coincidence that. Devil's Road was produced by the Australian Victor Van Vugt best

known for his work with Cave The songs, all written by Chris Eckman, are peopled with drifters and desperadoes and often conjure a sense of earnest wonder: "Even the mightiest rivers will bend/Before they vanish in the sand". Conventional rock band instrumentation is augmented by violin and pedal steel, while much of the eca



Lionel Richie no jokes about him being a shadow of his former self, please

album's doomy grandeur derives from Mark Nichols's dramatic string ar-

saw Philharmonic Orchestra. between Eckman (a deep, Cave-man album's soul.

growl) and Carla Torgerson (a contrastingly high, frosty tone), and, since rangements, performed by the War- the two hardly ever feature on the same song together it feels, at times, as if The singing duties are divided there is a tug of war going on over the

TOP TEN ALBUMS

... Take That (RCA) (What's the Story) Morning Glory?... Celine Dion (Epic)
...... Alanis Morissette (Maverick) Wildest Dreams. Tina Turner (Parlophone) Bizarre Fruit | & || . M People (Deconstruction ...Mike & the Mechanics (Virgin) Ocean Colour Scene (MCA) Hits...... Moseley Shoels

(East West 0630-13316)

THE husband and wife duo of Jon and Helena Marsh, better known as the Beloved, carry on peddling a peculiarly shallow brand of blissed-out dance music on the enigmatically titled X. The formula depends on synthesized chord sequences and effects, a mechanised beat and intermittent bouts of lovey-spacey stage whispering by Jon. The result is songs of limited melodic and rhythmic invention and lyrics that are simple-minded, at best,

Without the visual distraction of all those naked bodies on the video of Satellite, the track fails to sustain interest in its thumping house beat and pseudo-gospel chants. And, while there are more imaginatively syncopated numbers, notably Missing You, and an intriguingly cool shuffle on the off-beat called Three Steps to Heaven, it is not enough to make the pudding rise.

COCTEAU TWINS Milk & Kisses

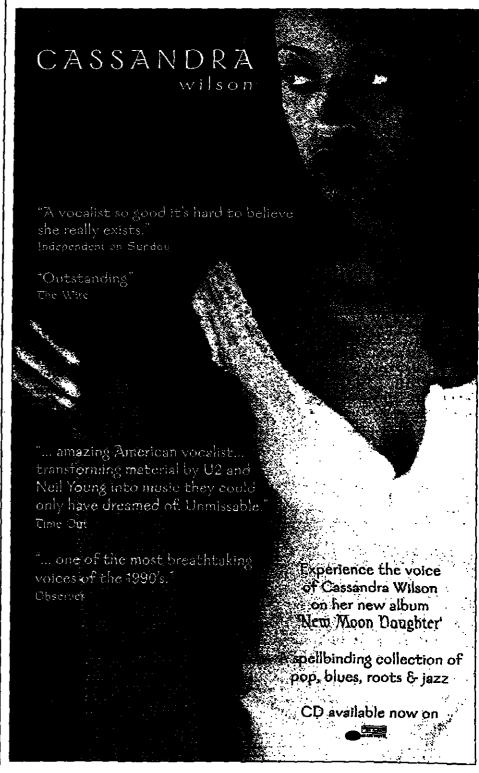
(Fontana/Mercury 514 501)

THE Twins have often been imitated but could never be mistaken for anyone else. From the echoing, opening chords of Violaine to the majestic, drifting finale of Seekers Who Are Lovers, their new album inhabits a musical world of its own.

For a group who have been together for 14 years, they have surrendered surprisingly little of their mystique. True to form, the abstract cover artwork of Milk & Kisses gives away little beyond a list of impenetrable titles including Rilkean Heart, Tishbite. Eperdu and Calfskin Smack, while Liz Frazer continues to use her tremulous soprano to skip and skate across the melodies, forming delicate clusters of syllables with no discernible meaning.

There are some lovely tunes, and the arrangements are more firmly and finely structured than has often been the case in the past. But for all their fragile beauty the songs evoke little more than a creeping sense of déjà vu.

DAVID SINCLAIR





TEACHING IN SINGAPORE



The Ministry of Education (Singapore) invites applications from qualified UK teachers to take up challenging and rewarding positions in Singapore on a contract basis.

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GCE 'O' level:

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c) at least 5 years of relevant teaching experience in schools

Teaching Posts (Group II)

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7. The syllabi and examinations that students are preparing

Singapore Cambridge English Language (Subject 1120) GCE 'O' level: English Literature (Subject 2010)

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Application Forms

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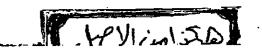
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EDUCATION

McDonald's grammar school No cause for

The ITV newsreader Trevor McDonald

tells David Charter why he wants to persuade people to stop grunting and to learn to speak the Queen's English

poets will

pride for Trevor McDonald. His mission is to inspire a similar emotion in a generation dismissed as "grunt-ers" by Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, because of their poor communication

Mr McDonald's assured stewardship of ITN's News At Ten, precise pronunciation and obvious love of the language made him a popular choice as chairman of the Better English Campaign, which will be unveiled on Monday after several months of behind-the-scenes preparations. He says that it will not be a spectacular

The campaign has a slogan: language is power. It has a bundle of good ideas. But because the Department for Education and Employment gave it virtually no resources, apart rom a skeleton staff seconded from Whitehall, there will, for the moment, be more plans than actual projects.

Valuable links have been forged with organisations such as the CBI, Community Service Volunteers and

the Newspaper Society: but more will be needed to put ideas into action. Nevertheless, the initiatives already outlined in advance seem to have great potential.

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help to take Local radio, newspapers and magazines the message have pledged to run material aimed at directly to youngsters to encourage better communicateenagers tion. Some high-profile writers and poets will help to take the message directly to teenagers. And a pilot

scheme to link schools by cable for video-conferencing is being prepared. "At this stage." Mr McDonald says, "we want to give people some idea of what we are working on, and we are trying to make the kind of splash which will get more of the people we are trying to attract to support us." He says the campaign's fundamental aim is to improve spoken and written English among the younger generation. They have to realise that their quality of life and

prospects can be enhanced by better "I find it a little strange that everybody else in the world seems to have realised this." he says. "English is not only the international language out it is a fo munication which can enhance one's personal status in life. People who turn up for jobs need to be able to convince an employer that they can communicate effectively or they will

not get the job." Despite the strong steer that the campaign has been given by industry to direct its efforts towards the needs of the labour market, Mr McDonald hopes that some of his own pleasure in language will rub off on others. He

ood English is a matter of calls his vision "grand and basic". He adds: "The campaign is also to promote the enjoyment of the wonderful richness and variety of the English language that has been used so effectively by so many people over the years to convey so many different emotions and touch people in so many different ways. But I must confess that does come a little way down the line. Long before you get to that, you have to make people aware that it is a tool. It can be made to work for them; they can use it to their advantage."

There has been no clearer indication of plummeting standards in formal English than recent research by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate comparing English O-level scripts from 1980 and GCSE papers from 1993 and 1994. The later examinations showed three times as many spelling errors, a narrowing of vocabulary and a sixfold increase in the use of non-standard

Mr McDonald carefully steers clear of blaming this deterioration on the education system in general or

modern teaching methods in particular. "I am Writers and not an expert in why it has declined. I just want to say it is about time we began focusing on this." One possible reason he suggests for lower stan-dards is the tendency to use "a kind of shorthand in modern society", which has limited the effective use of language. This is a clear echo of the "communication by grunt which

Mrs Shephard targeted when she set up the Campaign for Better English under Mr McDonald's stewardship. To cheers at the Tory party conference in 1994, Mrs Shephard denounced "Estuary English" and pledged to restore the standard of spoken and written language. Nothing happened until the next year's

conference, when the campaign was But Mr McDonald is adamant that the campaign should not be about forcing everyone to speak like him, or even like the Education Secretary. He explains: "We will try to make people aware that they can keep their shorthand language for their friends and their social groups, but they should know that there is something ing language in your favour. And we

"We are not trying to cut out people's regional accents or make them speak like anybody in particular. But people who cannot use English effectively might well find themselves left behind."

are saying that is the way to a kind of

Mr McDonald's interest is personal as well as professional. "I do think it is rather sad that some people don't



Trevor McDonald: "People need to be able to convince an employer that they can communicate effectively has to be seen as a route to a better

life. "It is not important for anybody

in society that they do well," he says;

"it is important for them that they do

use the language as effectively as I learnt to use it. It should be fun." His own love of language comes from a strong early commitment to broadcasting, literature and learn-

ing. He perfected his English by imi-Service while listening as a child in his native Trinidad. A key factor in his own success has clearly been a tremendous fascina-

tion with English and a burning ambition. But if the campaign is to succeed, it has to reach the disaffected youngsters that Mrs Shephard had in mind when she targeted grunters. Mr McDonald believes that the key is not to preach but simply to emphasise self-interest. Language

young people hear and magazines they read have been denlisted to help to spread the

message. "One of the things I am particularly keen about is trying to get more writers and poets into schools. It is not a brand new idea but we want to expand the existing scheme. If we get the money."

Again self-interest is the key. "It will be nice to show people, even those who are not so well motivated, that there are people who make a living by words and by expression. "If they can rub shoulders with these people and talk to them, one hopes something will brush off," says Mr McDonald. "The campaign is all

Mr McDonald believes he is in for a long campaign and no goals or deadlines have yet been set, apart from stimulating new excitement about English.

"The contrary, that we are ashamed of our language, is too horrible to contemplate," he adds. "It is a language which everybody else is using and we should use it with

alarm when an inspector calls

David Tytler responds to unions'

fears at this week's conferences

weeks, school inspections start again. Teachers preparing for the visits will be worry ing about the four or five days of relentless observation. Inspectors will be looking at new guidelines which come into effect this term.

Those guidelines, which require registered inspectors to name poor teachers, plus the views of Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector who claims that there are 15,000 of them, have been at the heart of the complaints aired at the teaching union conferences.

Ofsted, the Office for Standards in Education, has become the new hate figure in union demonology. It is attacked for being too expensive and damaging to schools, all stick and no carrot, to quote Doug McAvoy, the general secretary of the Nat-

Teachers. As someone who has been on a number of inspections since the system began in September 1993. I do not recognise the wilder claims that all inspection teams are only interested in

the bad, the poor, the unsatisfactory. There is nothing an inspector likes more than to be able to report that a school is good or has outstanding features. If there are shortcomings, however, it is only right that they are exposed. Schools are there for the benefit of pupils, not teachers: they should be accountable to parents and the community they serve.

Inspectors, too, should be accountable. Through the record of inspection of evidence, with its lesson observation forms and notes of interviews, they are. Properfollowed, the system is judging the quality of teachng, the criteria include subject knowledge, the way the class is motivated and controlled, the expectations the teacher has of pupils.

None of this should come as a surprise when the inspection starts. Until Ofsted, schools did not know on what basis they

were being judged, they had little time to prepare for the inspection. They now perhaps have too much time.

One of the most unpleasant and difficult tasks imaginable is to sit with a wellmeaning man or woman and say, in essence, that the past 15 or more years of his or her professional life have been a waste of time, that the school is failing, or, to use the euphemism, in need of special measures.

These judgments are not arrived at lightly. The initial Ofsted judgments are then checked in a follow-up visit by Her Maiesty's Inspectors who have reversed the decision in only a handful of

The vast majority of schools are doing a reasonable job, some a very good job, but in many there are teachers who are not performing well, who will score six or seven on

the

the new seven-Schools point scale. Where more are there than half of the for the teacher, who has to be seen at least twice, hit the botbenefit of tom scores, a confidential report pupils, not naming teacher has to be teachers given to both the head and the

teacher concerned. It is not published in the final report. It does not automatically mean that the teacher will be sacked. Extra help and training might well put the matter right. In reality, it is unlikely that there will be a rash of named teachers in fear of their livelihood.

> nspection does improve standards, not least because even before the inspectors arrive the school will have reviewed its policies and procedures. Even the best schools, and there are many, benefit from regu-

Uisted is expensive and the whole system is to be reviewed, but it would be a mistake to abandon the notion of regular and professional inspection and return to the haphazard system that left many schools unac-countable. Does anyone. other than a few union activists, want that? The author is a lay inspector.

Stephen Court talks to university teachers about the pressures they face from bureaucracy and student numbers

Edwards misses lunch most days. It is not that he thinks lunch is for wimps, but with a heavy load of teaching and administration, and a stream of students coming to see him about their work, he simply cannot find

"I'm not the sort of person who will lock the door. I will sit and talk to students. In term-time, that means I usually won't have lunch," he says. Dr Edwards, who teaches at Queen Mary and Westfield College in the University of London, works at least 50 hours a week during termtime. Time spent on research has to be squeezed in The pressure is not just on

time. Dr Edwards has been at Queen Mary and Westfield College since 1983. Five years ago, there were about a dozen students in classes in the English department. Now his class sizes have shot up to 50.
"We have seminars with 30 graduates (29 per cent), or

This is no time to be a don

people in a room. The amount of discussion is really limited," he says. "I have to mark about 100 essays in two weeks. I find that hard to cope with. I can't discuss the essays fully with the students."

The experience of Dr Edwards bears out the effect on academic staff of the rapid growth in higher education. Between 1984 and 1994, student numbers increased by 65 per cent, but academic staff rose by only Il per cent. A survey carried out in 1994 by the Association of University Teachers found that, on average, academics worked 55 hours a week in term-time, and 51 hours a week in

A third of their time during the term was taken up by administration - more than

scheme. The aim is to give

foreigo applicants a simple

the colleges in bureaucracy.

With 616,000 students com-

learn the language, training

has become a huge industry,

bringing in an estimated £700

million a year. There is no



Dr Andy Baker, left, says that research is marginalised

research (15.4 per cent). In 1962, only 11 per cent of academics' time went on administration.

One of the factors which has led to paperwork dominating dons' timetables was the start

in 1993 of the funding council assessment of university teaching. Ruth Levitas, a sociology lecturer at the University of Bristol, found she was putting in long hours when

"Last September and October I worked about 60 to 70 hours a week for nearly four weeks, almost entirely preparing documentation in the runup to the assessment," she

The past decade has also seen the introduction of research assessment, which is based on the quality and quantity of publications by academics. The assessment results determine the allocation of the bulk of research cash from the funding council. Over the past term, academics have been preparing for the fourth round of assessment, which starts at the end of this month. For Dr Levitas, this has been an extra headache. The exercise means more administration, and a huge pressure on teaching because of the amount of research we have to produce."

Andy Baker, a physicist at the University of Bath, finds juggling teaching, research and administration a difficult act. He says: "This term I have two days a week clear for research, but last term I didn't have a single day without teaching commitments.

Things are changing so rapidly in the sector - it's very unusual to teach the same course for two years. This means research is often marginalised to the vacations."

For university teachers such as Mike Edwards, Ruth Levitas and Dr Baker, and many others, there is still much in their work - particularly research and teaching - which they find rewarding. But the job has changed dramatically since they started their ca-

"I still enjoy being an academic," says Mike Edwards. "But I would have grave reservations about recommending it to anyone now as a

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Setting standards to root out the rogues

More than 600,000 students come to Britain each year to learn English.

FINDING a language course has never been difficult in Britain. Thousands of students cross the Channel each summer to learn English and, despite the traditional British reluctance to master other tongues, growing numbers of students in universities and adult education centres are

making an attempt. The problem, especially for continental visitors, has always been to judge the quality of the countless courses on offer. There are annual horror stories about rogue language schools, which tarnish the good name of others in the

Next week, however, the government regulation, so the

John O'Leary reports on moves to safeguard a £700 million industry three English language asso-British Council and the two ciations are banding together to find a solution in the form associations representing the public and private sectors of a single accreditation have stepped in to fill the

breach. The council has managed and reliable guarantee of quality without submerging separate schemes for the two associations since the 1980s, but now one accreditation system will cover schools, ing to Britain each year to colleges and universities that teach English and a foreign language. Institutions will be inspected on a three-year cyde, with spot-checks between

of offices. formal visits.

At present, 320 of the estimated 1,000 centres operating during the summer peak are accredited. The signs are that the proportion will grow with a more prestigious, betterknown scheme, especially since the new partnership will also promote accredited institutions through the British Council's worldwide network

Foreign language teachers have also been involved in a bout of soul-searching over the quality of courses. A

recent report by the London-based Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research found there were worrying variations in the quality of courses in universities, most of which now offer language courses to all students and not just those taking specialist degrees in The enthusiastic take-up is

placing a strain on language departments, most of which have received little extra funding to offer an expanded

service. Universities have been increasing their use of computerised packages and video programmes to supplement individual teaching. The 800 members of the Association for Language

Learning, who attended their annual conference at Exeter University earlier this month. called for a more coherent national policy covering all age groups. The association is worried that languages were downgraded beyond the age of 14 in the review of the national curriculum when the CBI and the Department of Trade and Industry are emphasising their importance

in economic terms.

Hastings increases feeling of optimism

some impromptu coaching FOR the first time in its short. from Mick Luckhurst, the start-stop-start history, the World League of American English-born kicker who spent seven years in the Nat-Football (WLAF) starts its ional Football League with the season with a feeling of opti-Atlanta Falcons, and Morten mism. All six teams return to Andersen, the present Falcons kicker, who is believed to be the same cities with the same six head coaches and, after a one of the best ever. He lengthy closed season, the described that entrancing 30campaign starts with two derminute spell when the pair bys - tomorrow the Rhein took apart his technique as Fire entertain the champions. "the most mentorable expertthe Frankfurt Galaxy, and on ence of Atlanta". Whether he Sunday the Scottish Claycan be successful will be as mores visit the London Monintriguing as guessing the Fridge's true weight. The acquisition of William

The attendences will be The Refrigerator" Perry by the Monarchs has already studied almost as keenly. Last proved beneficial. His preyear, the Monarchs were reseason role as the head of their luctant to nominate a figure marketing amd publicity camfor their first home game and with good reason, as fewer than 9,000 turned up. paign has increased their media presence tentold from This week, the Monarchs have been almost as coy, but always 15,000. As the League's flagship franchise, the number at

Hastings: challenge

last season. His performance

on the pitch will be watched

almost as keenly as his poundage, which, listed at

"350lb-ish", seems on the gen-

Gavin Hastings has done a

similar job for the Claymores.

While the capabilities of the

former Scotland and British

Isles captain and the record

points-scorer for his country

are well known in rugby

union, his decision to try and

kick a different type of ball is a

brave one. "It's going to be a

major challenge getting on that field and lining up my first PAT (conversion), field

goal or kick-off," he said

At training camp in Georgia

last month, Hastings received

erous side.

the result. The six teams, which also include the Amsterdam Admirals and Barcelona Dragons, play each other on a home and away basis. The team with the best record after the first half of the season will host the World Bowl on June 22 or 23 and will play the team which records the best record in the second half in that championship game. Last year, on June 17, the Galaxy beat the Admirals 26-22 in Amsterdam.

White Hart Lane on Sunday

will be almost as important as

Each team has seven "national" (non-American) players, one of whom must be a kicker or punter. For the first two drives of the game, each team must have at least one national player on the field. The rules do not apply for the next two drives, but come into force for the next set of possessions.

Desperately seeking wizards of Oz rules



Jensen, left, Damien. Brian and Adam are enthusiastic about Australian Rules football, despite the very tight shorts. Photograph: André Camara

ime Out, the very best London listings magazine, has a Sportsboard column wherein clubs and gymnasia, base, basket, foot, soft and volleyball teams invite readers to consider membership. Last week the Rainbow Warriors' advertisement colled for: Lesbian fastpitch experienced pitcher and

I was looking for something more general, settled for: North London Lions seek new players of Australian Rules football. Oz ancestry not essential. Contact Brian. I contacted Brian and, on

Wednesday evening, he and I and the Lions' coach, who is called Damien from Adelaide, also Adam, who works in a hospital research laboratory, and Jensen, a carpenter with bar experience, both keen on embracing Australian Rules, met in a pub called O'Henery's in Finchley Road on the eastern fringes of London-Irish Kilburn.

Channel 4 used to show Australian Rules: it was the sport in which men wore very brief, very tight shorts and each other a lot. Like Gaelic football with added violence. whatever, I learnt about "shirt

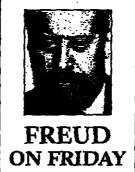
The oval on which they play is the size of two and a half football pitches. There are four goalposts at each end; getting the ball - rugby shaped but smaller and beavier - through the tall centre posts counts six points. A single point is awarded for a "behind", the spaces between the centre and outside posts.

Teams comprise 18-a-side with four substitutes who can be interchanged an unlimited number of times. There is no offside rule and, in Oz, they don't send people off, not for anything. A player can walk onto the field, punch an opponent on the nose and it's all right . . . for the time being.

Tackles should be above the knee and below the shoulder: well, yes, technically you can grab a man in the crutch but the trousers are very tight.

We were drinking pints of lager and, when it was my round. I asked what I could get. They said lager.
I suggested they tell me which kind as O'Henery's

seemed to serve a fair selection and they said "you don't ask Australians what kind of Over the next glasses of



front", which is Rules-speak for a shoulder charge that misses its target; "blind turn", a rolling turn to avoid the tackler, and the "mark", which is similar to marks in rugby except you do not need to have your feet on the ground.

The game consists of four 25-minute quarters and begins with "ball-up": the umpire throws the ball in the air and two ruckmen go for it. You can do pretty well any-thing to the ball except throw it kick, hold in one hand and punch it away in the other, run ... and only the man in

There is, says Brian — and I watch him closely to see whether he keeps a straight face — a perception (false) that the game is rough.

Damien shakes his head,

wondering how such a thought could have entered people's minds. Jensen, who originates from Burma and now lives in Upton Park, smiles. Adam, from Poole in Dorset, wants to play because he is approaching 30 and is looking for a contact sport to see him through the summer. He listens impassively, uneasy about the shorts.

Each team has a full back and two back pockets; a centre half-back and two flankers: a centre man and two wings: centre half-forward and two forward flankers; full forward and two pockets; also one ruckman and two forward pockets who follow the play regardless and may run unwards of 12 miles in one game.

North London Lions play at Mill Hill RFC, about 14 matches a year in the league dominated by Wandsworth Demons, unbeaten in 1995 in cup and league. The cost of joining is £30 per annum for which you get a T-shirt, have dered have a man on the sidelines with first-aid kit and

receive special deals O'Henery's - like priority entry if there is a queue. O'Henery's sponsor the team and run a barbecue which is

to be either free or subsidised. As football league clubs used to have a limit on the number of foreign players they may use, so the Australian Rules League insists that no team has more than ll Australian players: "We do this to promote the game."

"How many watch?" 'About 30." Who umpires?" That is one of the problems: they need umpires who know the rules and can keep up with the play

and, when you get people like that, they don't want to umpire; they want to get in there. Adam and Jensen are keen, receive Lions shirts onto which have been stitched the badges of two sponsors ... Terrible job stitching on those badges - lacerates fin-gers," Brian explains.

Could you not find some one with a sewing machine?" Australians come over with effects weighing 30lb; no room for sewing machines. Time Out might be for a

Backers to secure long-term future of Windsor

By JENNY MACARTHUR

THE Royal Windsor Horse Show, which has been under financial pressure for a decade has received support from BCM Worldwide, the international equestrian management company, which will secure its future well into the next century.

Simon Brooks-Ward, a director of BCM, who made the announcement in London yesterday, said: "We are injecting a considerable amount into the show and intend to see it not only survive but thrive." Robert Wiseman chief exec-

utive of Windsor, welcomed the BCM as the "ideal part-ner". The five-day show, which costs £800,000 ib run, was founded in 1943 by the late Count Robert Orssich and Geoffrey Cross, who died last

When the Richmond show ended 30 years ago, it was left to Windsor to uphold the tradition of the big outdoor show. Its pageantry, style and royal connections (the Queen is patron and has not missed a show since her accession) gave it a unique position among shows but it flourished against considerable financial odds. In 1984, after the loss of key

sponsors, it was reduced to four days. The cutbacks coincided with a decline in its international standing.

Brooks-Ward, director of the successful Olympia showjumping championships, intends to restore top international showjumping in the main arena and to make the Harrods International Driving Grand Prix the premier driving championships in the world. "Our objective is to develop the competitive elements whilst retaining the pageantry," he said.

This year, the show, back to five days, takes place in its traditional setting in Home Park from May 8 to 12 and has attracted a record entry of 3.450. Nick Skelton, the winner of the 1995 showjumping World Cup who now competes mainly on the Continent, is making a rare appearance at a British show. He and the two Whitaker brothers, Michael and John - who also compete at Windsor — are leading contenders for the British Olympic team.

In addition to the showing. show will host a range of fun events and displays.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent This refresher is another example of elimination play. Tell me when you are fed up with them. East-West game

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Contract: Six Hearts by South, Lead: queen of spades

(I) North has too good a hand to raise his partner directly to Four Hearts and has to choose some stronger action. There are two reasons for choosing Three Diamonds rather than Two Spades: firstly, the diamond suit is better, and secandly, if South supports diamonds North can always go back to hearts whereas it would not be so easy if South supports spades.

This diamond suit is an old chestnut in elimination play. You win the king of spades and draw two rounds of trumps. You take the ace of spades, ruff a spade, return to a trump and ruff your last spade. Now there is an important final preparatory move you cash the king of diamonds before exiting with a club.

Here East has to win the trick, and now when he plays diamonds his trick in the suit disappears. Had West had the ace of clubs he would have had no choice but to give a ruff and discard - but notice that if you hadn't played off a top dia-mond he would have been able to exit in that suit.

☐ For details of The Times Midland Private Banking National Bridge challenge. contact the event organisers on 0181-942 9506 or write to: Britannic Building, Beverley Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4PH or fax to: 0181-942

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

NECROMIMESIS a. Camouflage

b. Dumb show

c. Thinking one is dead

MURCID a. Turbid or muddy

c. Welsh detectives

APORIA

WORD-WATCHING

a. A spotty skin disease b. A prolific white rock plant c. Insincere apologies

MATRIX a. A figurative womb b. Quarrel with a mother

c. A parameter Answers on page 38



By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Menchik scores

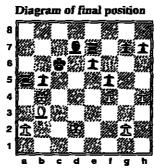
The final top scores in the Vera Menchik memorial tournament in Newcastle were: Team A: Andrew Martin 7 points (out of 9) and Andrew Muir 6; Team B: Susan Lalic 7 and Ruth Sheldon 612. The competition honours the first women's world champion, Vera Menchik, who was killed by a German buzz-bomb in London during the Second World War.

Here are two wins by the top scorer from group A:

White: Andrew Martin Black: Tim Wall Menchik Memorial. Newcastle, April 1996

Sicilian Defence NIG Bb4 Ne4 Ca5 Bxc3+ 5 Nc3 6 e5 7 Og4 8 Oxe4 9 bxc3 Oxa1 Oxa1 d5 Kd7 f5 Nc6 Oxe5 Obe Figs be as Oxe6 Oxe6 Kade Bd7 d4 b5 24 Br2 axb5 Rae8 Re7 Rae 25 cxb5 26 Bb3

Re5 Oxd4+ 33 Oc3+ kb6



White: Andrew Martin Black: Ruth Sheldon Menchik Memorial, Newcastle, April 1996

Newcastie, April 1990					
	London	System			
1	d4	Nt6			
2	Nf3	g6			
3	Bf4	₿g7			
4	e3	0-0			
5		ය			
6	0-0	b6			
7	C4	d6			
8		Nbd7			
9	Oc2	Nh5			
10	Bg5	Ndf6			
11	Rad1	h6			
12		B/5			
13		Bg4			
14		bxc5			
15		Ne8			
16		BI5			
17		Bxd3			
18	Cxct3	g5			
19	Bxg5	hwg5			
20		15			
21	Qh3	Nef6			
22		Nxf6			
23	Cxf5	Black resign			
DI	Raymond Keen	e writes on ch			
Monday to Eciday in Sport and					

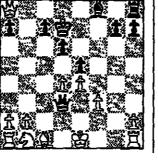
Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday,

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene Black to play. This position is from

the game Rodzinsky - Alekhine, Paris 1913. In this position, White has grabbed material at the expense of his development. This is a very dangerous policy against such a fine attacking player as Alekhine. Can you spot the continuation that caused White to swiftly regret his greed?

Solution on page 38



RFU right to take firm stand against clubs From Mr Tim J. D. Cunis Sir, Well done the Rugby Football Union! After Cliff

Brittle's appointment as chairman of the executive committee in January and a period for fact-finding, consultation and negotiation, it was right to throw down the gauntlet to the senior clubs (report. April 10). Rugby union is living in difficult and dangerous times and David Hands tells us a sorry tale of strident arrogance, personal vilification

and greed by the "top clubs". The RFU has to service the needs of all clubs both great and small. In particular, in the face of the collapse of rugby coaching in our schools, we need the excellent but expensive new RFU structure of coaching and refereeing courses and all the necessary infrastructure and administration that goes into maintaining an ongoing wide base of available and improving players. Ex-pensive imported talent may sparkle briefly, but English rugby lives off it at its peril. The irresponsible demands

for each top club gathered under the banner of English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (EPRUC) to be given £1 million are unrealistic and do not match the product. Poor individual skills amongst the majority of these clubs do not warrant inflated player pay-ments as yet — certainly not to the detriment of support of the wider game,

Brighter prospects From Mr Clive Ellames

Sir. Clement Freud (Freud on Friday. April 5) is obviously not a badminton man. Britain does indeed have the

als in Atlanta, as our mixed doubles pairing of Archer and Bradbury are world-ranked and seeded. Also, England (not Britain) are ranked fifth in the world and second in

Europe.
A better appraisal of badminton would have been gained from the recent All-England championships in Birmingham. This is the world's most prestigious event

The game in England is in a EPRUC should now admit state of flux. Who is to say that that it has tried: that it has the clubs that are currently in failed; and that it now agrees to go along with the RFU the top ten, or 20, or even top 40 are the wisest, the best, the requirements and the wishes correct ones to take our game of the vast army of rugby forward? An exclusive, self-protective, short-sighted, autounion supporters who voted overwhelmingly for a "seamnomous cartel of clubs living less" structure. off talent purchased from oth-I hope, too, that our top er nurturing clubs and unions

SPORTS LETTERS

cannot be in the best interests of our game. The clubs cannot all expect to become fully professional overnight. If it takes two or three years to earn their way, so be it. If the top clubs refuse to cooperate with the RFU and they Yours faithfully. break away from the RFU (or TIM CUNIS, some of them are expelled), 62 Derby Road, then, surely, they must also leave the cosy umbrella of the International Board, which

has ruled that all broadcasting rights are vested in the 67 From Mr Thomas N. Martin worldwide unions with territorial jurisdiction. Are Welsh — or South African - clubs really going to play return fixtures against a few clubs in England without certainty of continuing tele-

European clubs really intent on playing top English clubs in a new structure without appropriate recompense? Are all the members of the current England squad so cash-oriented that they will give up hopes of all future caps and hand the chance to grace Twickenham to players in lower clubs? I think not.

As Freud seemed so preoc-

cupied by geese and their

feathers, it may help him to

sleep more easily to know that the majority of badminton is

played using synthetic shut-tles, the feathered variety only

being used in top-class play.

Yours faithfully CLIVE ELLAMES (Director

of Development, Badminton

Association of England),

Sapcote, Leicestershire.

Spa Drive,

vision income? Are other

with more than 350 entries from 36 countries and witnessed by thousands of

spectators.

opportunity of winning med-

players also have the wisdom to see the writing on the wall and are not led astray by misguided, ephemeral selfinterest. It would be a pity for players to become contracted to clubs about to go

Selective views

Sir. Alan Lee's statement that "watching others play cricket bored" Ian Botham (April 4) is well illustrated by Botham's lack of knowledge about his fellow cricketers when attempting to answer any ques-tions on his specialised subject whilst competing on the television programme A Question of Sport. He finds it highly amusing to present this perso-na that didn't have to study cricket in order to develop his own game. Such an angle may seem trivial but is revealing about the format that Bothan might choose for his would-be selection meetings.

Yours sincerely THOMAS N. MARTIN, Rosehili, North Latch Road, Brechin, Tayside.

From Mr M. F. Lowe Sir, It seems obvious to me that the people closest to cricket are the players and that, therefore, the Test team should be chosen by the three (or five) senior county captains.

Yours sincerely M. F. LOWE, 8 Squirrels Heath Lane, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211.

Boat Race has to alter

From Mr Oliver Mason

Sir, David Miller's article about the Boat Race (April 8) prompts a couple of suggestions for the future. Now seems the right time because, as a Cambridge man, I can't be accused of wanting to change the rules to try and improve our future chances.

I know I am by no means alone in thinking the race should be between undergraduates of Oxford and Cambridge, as of yore. Any man (or woman, in the case of the cox who had already graduated from any university would be ineligible. Furthermore there should be an age-limit; perhaps 25 would be reasonable. These changes could not be introduced immediately; I would suggest 2002 as the

starting date. One change I should like to see straight away, however, is the abolition of "rowing bursaries". Keeping money out of amateur sport seems to be traught with difficulty these days, but the attempt surely has to be made. Yours faithfully,

OLIVER MASON, Ridge House, Jonas Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex.

England's benefit

From Mr Michael Nixon Sir. The Football Association cannot justify inflated prices for major matches unless it can guarantee every seat is

Perhaps the FA should issue all unsold tickets (within, say, 48 hours of the kick-off) free to local schools and junior football organisations.

This would prove particu-larly beneficial for England's warm-up campaign for Euro 56 and give younger players and supporters the opportuni-ty to share our national sport at the highest level.

Yours etc., MICHAEL NIXON, 25 Bardfield, Basildon, Essex.





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March Street

TRIDAY APRILURA

Loder paces himself for the classic test

Richard Evans watches Blue Duster gain high marks in her homework

for the 1,000 Guineas

The headlights of oncoming cars were piercing the early-morning gloom yesterday as David Loder walked across Newmarket's Bury Road to the Limekiln gallops and waited pensively to see if the best horsepower in his stable would shine with similar brilliance.

Out of sight, 6½ furlongs up the trial ground, Richard Hughes crouched in the saddle of Blue Duster and followed the tail of Verzen as the lead horse powered into the misty distance. The next 75 seconds would keep a dream alive - or undermine cher-

ished hopes of classic glory.

After a winter which has stubbornly refused to make way for spring and made the training of young thoroughbreds a nightmare, the top-rated and unbeaten filly of 1995 was being asked the first serious question of 1996 - with the 1,000 Guineas little

more than three weeks away. Suddenly, the pair of horses emerged from the mist. Verzen, sensing the imminent challenge, stuck out his neck in an attempt to go even faster and rebuff his younger stablemate. And, just as quickly, it was all over.

As Hughes dismounted from Blue Duster and chatted with Ricky Bowman, rider of Verzen and assistant to Loder. the smiles on their faces told one story. "She worked a dream. She has such a high cruising speed, it is unreal," Hughes enthused, "Ricky was going as fast as he could and I was taking her back a peg or two. When I asked her, she



Loder stays in close attendance as Blue Duster and Hughes are led onto the Newmarket gallops yesterday

picked up in two strides and suddenly we had gone three clear. That was her first serious bit of work but she did it so

easily." However, it was the look on the face of Loder which told the real story. His ruddy complexion radiated relief. It is easy to forget, given his meteoric rise to within sight of racing's highest peaks, but Loder, just 32, is only starting his fourth full season as a trainer. Fifty horses three years ago, 80 last season and 110 this are testimony to his success and the growing burden of expectation.

If he feels pressure, he does not show it. But genuine classic chances do not come along every season, and the elements have not helped as he tries to convert a first opportunity into reality.

think Blue Duster is in good condition. We are on course, but the last month, in particular, has not been easy," he reflected. "You miss bits of a top-class filly. You have to work and then she didn't scope temper the level of work you well one week so I didn't work her that day. Then the ground

are happy to achieve.

If I had felt she needed to was frozen and I didn't want to run at Newmarket next week I take the chance. Now, you would have been under a lot of don't mind missing one bit of pressure and her preparation work, but when you start would have been even less smooth. But I am more re-laxed and will take her to having to miss two or three for different reasons you know Newmarket next Thursday to work after racing."

While Blue Duster remains and the chill factor was minus the centre of classic attention, Loder's strongest ever batch of

championship hopefuls. Rio Duvida, the only horse to give Alhaarth a fright last season, heads for the Craven Stakes next week. "How can he be a 33-1 chance for the 2,000 Guineas?" the non-betting trainer asked.

Meanwhile, Lucayan Prince, who is being aimed at the Greenham Stakes at Newbury next Friday and a possible clash with Alhaarth. has become the apple of Lester Piggott's eye. "Lester asked three weeks ago if he could ride work for us and it is nice to have him on the team," Loder said. "He has seen and done it all before and it is a big help to have someone like him available who can pass on opinions about horses."

There is no shortage of quality material for the nine times Derby-winning jockey to test among the classic generation and the twoyear-olds, which are stronger than ever in depth.

The first year we had one good two-year-old who was clear to see straight away. The second year there were three. Last year there were nine. This year you could pick 15 and you might not have them all

Apprehension, a Sheikh Mohammed-owned son of In The Wings, "could be anything"; Abou Zouz, a 350,000guinea purchase by Wafic Said, has already been pencilled in for the best two-yearold races, and then there is Blue Lustre, a three-parts sister to Blue Duster, and Scarlett Lake, a half-sister to Maid For The Hills and Maid For Walking, who "could be

the best of the three". Hopes for the future, but nothing compared to the dream of the present, which remains alive.

Hoad receives one-year ban from training

By JULIAN MUSCAT

ROGER HOAD, the trainer, had his licence withdrawn for just over a year yesterday for misleading Jockey Club officials over a positive test returned by a stable runner.

Elburg, from Hoad's Lewes yard, was found to have prohibited substances in his urine after winning the Tote Marathon Handicap at Pontefract on May I last year. He was subsequently disqualified.

Hoad, 52, was fined £1,000 for the offence and will lose his licence from next Wednesday until May l next year for misleading answers he gave to a Jockey Club investigating officer on three occasions last year.

Hoad was also fined £200 for a breach of the rules concerning his employment of stable staff.

However, a charge of misconduct relating to an incident involving a fellow trainer, Tom McGovern, at Folkestone in January was dismissed. Hoad's legal representative, William Norris, said: "We had a fair hearing."

Away from the domestic scene, a series of guarded bulletins were yesterday issued by Godolphin's racing manager, Simon Crisford. after the stable's classic candidates were put through their paces over seven furlongs in Dubai.

Mark Of Esteem, second favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, worked satisfactorily under Frankie Dettori but rather more was expected of

Bint Shadayid, who has the

1,000 Guineas on her agenda. However, Crisford emphasised there was plenty of time for the Nashwan filly to make the grade.

"Mark Of Esteem is right on schedule for his race," Crisford said. "Bint Shadayid was ridden by Richard Hills and her work was only fair. We were expecting to see a little more from her but there are still three weeks before the Guineas. She should improve a lot; it will be interesting to watch her progress over the next

fortnight." Bookmakers were quick to react to news of the desert gallops. William Hill eased Bint Shadayid to 8-1 from 7-1 and cut Bosra Sham to 11-8 from 7-4. Mark Of Esteem was pushed out in the 2,000 Guineas market to 9-1 from 7-1, while Hills promoted Albaarth to odds-on favouritism at 5-4 on.

"Mark Of Esteem could not pick up his lead horse, Redoubtable, but that is hardly surprising," Crisford added. "Even Moonshell could not get to Redoubtable before she won the Oaks last year. We are neither disappointed nor upbeat: just satisfied that he is on schedule."

Eight horses have been entered at the supplementary stage for the Derby. Connections of Beauchamp King, Bonarelli, Clever Cliche, Glory Of Dancer, Mark Of Esteem, Tagula, Shaamit and Spinning World each paid £8,000 for the privilege, taking the total number of Derby entrants to 158.

NOTTINGHAM

2.00 Crystal Fast 2.30 Kings Harmony 3.00 Scarrots

3.30 Clever Cliche 4.00 Eskimo Nei 4.30 Cuango

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 HAL'S PAL (nap). 2.30 Farhana

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST 2.00 WATHALL SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,070: 1m 54yd) (15 runners)

1995; NO CORRESPONDING MEETING FORM FOCUS

CRYSTAL FAST VI 2nd of 7 to Romandsons Charm in claimer at Langheld (AW, 1m) on penultimate start. TAKE NOTE 111 4th of 9 to Accountancy Jewel in maiden auction at Lingfield (AW, 7f) on penultimate start. MUSIC MESTRESS 5 3 dd of 13 Lift Claim in seller at Windson (6I, good) with Lift Claim in seller at Windson (6I, good) with MOBILE KING (1th worse off) 271 12th, Aug 1995.

Selection: MUSIC MESTRESS 5

2.30 NEW BASFORD HANDICAP. (3-Y-O: £3,343: 61 15yd) (18 runners)

	·	-,	
201	(10)	21-	FARHANA 168 (D.F) (A Foustols) W Jarves 9-7
202	(2)	30205-0	U-NO-HARRY 22 (O.F) (D Coppenhalf) R Hollinshead 9-5 F Lyoch (5)
203	riži.	M11_	MYROTYF 229 /D.F.GVA Moreney) & Ukirovi 9-3 W Nyari
204	(3)	03412-0	MULLAGH HILL LAD 10 (G) (Bramble Partners) B McMaton 9-3 6 Carter
205	(9)	E1 #67 E	CWCCDVD 10 /C) (Lord Master) J Berry 9-3 7 190975 (2)
206	in.	2641-	KINGS HARMONY 144 (D.G) (Ten Of Hearts) P Makin 9-1 Pal Editory
207	(4)	0E91E-1	LAN ETRIAN REFERRA 17 (D.G.S.) (Walestan Pic) M. Litandon 9-0 K. rangues
		nen.	EARLY DOTHERS 937 (A Stanneth Mrs A Rate 2-13,
203	(6)	020-	GREDITE RISQUE 300 (C Morris) J Fanshave 8-12 K Variey (3)
209	(11)	UUD-	CHESITE MADE SON TO MADE IN THE PROPERTY OF TH
210	(8)	56040-	RAPED LINER 193 (D Broderick) H Oliver 8-8
211	(15)		CORPTENIO AT IN A CONTROL NO MARKET STATE OF THE STATE OF
			OLEGEBER DALL 2011 (North Ltd) T W29500 8-4 U MGASD411
212	(13)	GOU-	RUSTIC SONG 10 (Mrs L Tye) J William 8-4 P Robinson
213	(14)		HUSTE, SUMS 10 (NOS E 176) 5 MM Controlog 8-7
314	433	356000-	PERCY PARK 160 (It Hodgson) M W Easterby 8-2 J Com
215	dñ.	50400-	POLISH SAGA 171 (J Wynn-Williams) M Dods 8-7
			AMERIAN DURAN OF CONCESSORS & MUSICIPATED B-2
215	(18)		
217	(5)	0650-61	HUBBS CHURCE 9 (U.S) (Sees t Flores) & Alexandr D
218	(16)	4-06656	WINGHUT 62 (B) (E Glesson) M Haynes 8-0 F Norton
	,		AT O Links Charge 7-1 Farburg Kings Harmony, 8-1 Guespyr, Milesten Rel

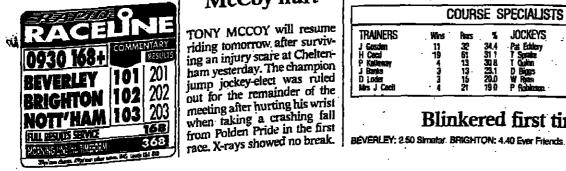
FARHANA beat Ocean Smeam 441 in B-renness market at hewresteet (61, good to Brms). MYSOTE completed double, treat Shortaine 941 in B-ronner market at Reverselve, treat Shortaine 941 in B-ronner market at Reverselve, good to Brms). MULLASH MULLAD reck 2nd of 12 to Krystal black in hands 234 is Southwell (AM, 97). MULLASH HOURS CHOICE (77b better of) 55-1 fifth. HOBBS CHOICE has GONETSM (30b better of) 94 in 13-ronner handicap at Harviton (61, good to sait) with ARSIAK (31b better of). 51 diff MULLASH HILL LAD 25/41 19th and RUSTIC.

3.00 TROWELL MAIDER AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-0: £2,381: 5f 13yd) (10 numers)

| Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care | Care |

FORM FOCUS

GRESATHE SI 6th of 7 to technol-On in maxima authors all leicostar (SI, soit). SCARRIOTS (tooled auction at Leicostar (SI, soit). SCARRIOTS (tooled auction at Leicostar (SI, soit). SCARRIOTS (tooled and Euro (SI); darn all annualle SI winner and Euro (SI); darn all Europe SI winner Thei Morning, CHDPIN (Mar 27, 5.200gms). Half-brother by Glassic Music in very settle for the SI winner Terrement, darn friench useful first of Vinner Terrement (A) and CANRIOT (SI) And CANRIOT (SI), good).



McCoy hurt

TONY MCCOY will resume riding tomorrow after surviving an injury scare at Cheltenham yesterday. The champion jump jockey-elect was ruled out for the remainder of the meeting after hurting his wrist when taking a crashing fall from Polden Pride in the first

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 6000 TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G.S) (Mrs D Robusson) B Hail 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 83

Racecard namber Draw in brackets. Sb-figure form (F.— fell. P.— publed up. U.— ussessed inder. B.— brought down S.— stopped up. R.— refused. D.— disquedified). Horse's name. Days since lest euting: J. B. jumps. F. B. fist. (B.— blinkers. V.— visco. H.— hosd. E.— Eyesheld. C.— course winner. D.— distance entitier. CD.—

course and distance winner. BF -- be twombe in talest race) Going on which horse has tron (F — farm, good to firm, hard, G — good. S — soil, good to soil, heavy). Owner in brastets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handrapper's raing.

things are not running exactly

five - not ideal conditions for

"She worked last Thursday

3.30 BASSINGFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £4,391: 1m 54yd) (18 runners)

4V I	ίαi	O BUTCHOOM IN It herestology is lowered 2-0				
402	(2)	5 CHINEDISIS 8 (Sheath Lifotrammen) L. Cumani 9-0				
433	(16)	CHOCOLATE ICE (RI Cycer) C Cycer 9-0 D Biogs				
404	(18)	CLEVER CLICHE (1 Allan) H Cecil 9-0 Pat Entlery				
405	(9)	DEVIL'S DANCE (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0 K Bradshew				
405	(15)	O D J CAT 10 LI O Multon W Mair 9-0 Jeso-Plems Lone2				
40?	(8)	C- PLYING PERMART 301 (C Hamer) in Hannon 9-0 T Outon				
403	(12)	66- HALEBIO 170 (S Woods; S Woods 9-0 W Woods				
409	(17)	42- HAL'S PAL 212 (W Sald) D Loder 9-0				
410	(10)	0645- KHABAR 203 (Mrs N Sketton) R Bastiman 9-0				
411	(11)	LOOK WHO'S CALLING (S Edwards) 8 McAfabon 9-0 G Carper				
412	(14)	ROYAL ACTION (§ Caster) J Banks 9-0 , J Duino				
413	(13)	4- SANDY PLOSS 289 (Cinesten Stud) H Ceral 9-0 W Ryan				
414	(4)	65- STAR OF RING 268 (Mrs. C Parter) M Heaton-Bills 9-0 M Fenton				
415	(5)	00- WASHENGTON REET 185 (Shekh Mahammad) J Gozdan 9-0, Data Gibson				
416	ĺΉ	00- FLAME OF HOPE 161 (Date Of Martborough) J Dunlop 8-9				
417	(3)	SELKY SMOOTH (8 Polities) Mrs N Marcauley 8-9				
418	Üί	TART (Lord Vestey) J Fanshare 8-9 N Variey (3)				
BETTING: 15-8 Hall's Pal. 9-4 Clever Clicke, 8-1 Sendy Ross, Devil's Dance, 10-1 Clemensis. 14-1 others.						
FORM FOCUS						

CHINENSIS about 574 5th of 12 to Rioyal Canacka. In mainten at Lecister (1m. good). D. J. CAT 251 10th of 12 to High Barropus in creation over course and distance (good) with BREYDON 77 12th. HALEBIO about 11 th th of 17 to Fornest Barrain in a martien at Lecister (1m. good) on penullarian start with WASHMIGTON REEF 271 17th. HALES PAL 1741 2nd of 19 to Strassrans in making at Yamouth (71, good). XHABAR about 2941 4th of 10 to Jack

Jennings in marken at Descacler (7), good to firm) on perudimode start. SANDY RLOSS 11 kil 4th of 8 to Casoner Part in medicinal at hempton (7), good to firm). STAR OF RING about 5kil 6th of 11 to Pommand in marken at Sandren (7), good on perudimate start with RVNex PENNANT 494 5m. RLAME OF HOPE 994 10th of 18 to Washing Sands in marken at Doncaster (7), good to firm). Selection: HAL'S PAL

4.00 CARRINGTON HANDICAP (£4,126: 1m 1f 213yd) (18 runners)

501	(15)	45606-2	LDOKIMGFORARAINBOW 8 (C.D.F.G) (8 Saumbily) 8 Junes 8-9-10 M Wighert	9
502	(11)	201150-	LEADING SPIRIT 178 (G,S) (Induse Patters) C Wall 4-9-10 W Lord	9
503	(7)	00/023-6	SHERAZ 17 (Speedlith Group) N Timbler 4-9-8	8
504	(13)	81F121-	ANOTHER TIME 171 (D.F.G) (D Sullivan) S Woods 4-9-7 W Woods	9
505	(17)	951021-	DR EDGAR 179 (D.F.S) (A Walson) M Dods 4-9-7 F Morton	9
506	· (2)	005/10-	08ELOS 347 (D.F) (H De Walden) Mrs J Cecti 5-9-7 _ " T Ives	8
507			REPLECTING 851 (D.F.G) (1 Modesn) & Jones 7-9-5 Date Gibson	-
508				8
509				9
510	(5)	33/5	TALATHATH 15 (Mrs C Rawson) C Dayer 4-9-3	
511	(3)	00/2145-	WESTMINSTER 127J (F) (J Bull) M Tomplans 4-9-1	8
512	1160	521161	SWEET SUPPOSIN 14 (V.D.S) (Birding Mallers) C Dayer 5-8-10 G Carter	8
513	(10)	15310-3	PRINCESS DANIELLE 22 (C.D.F.S) (Mrs M Wichtern) C Esey 4-8-9 . C Ruther	9
514	18)	153-	JUST MILLE 196 (F) (E Carter) J Banks 3-8-8 J Quino	8
515	(4)	0054/10-	MAJAL 319J (F,G) (Mr. P Wate) J Waterright 7-8-7 D McXeous	-
516	(6)	21060-4	HARVEY WHITE 18 (O.F.) (H Wate Partners) J Pearce 4-8-7 8 Gallard (7)	g
517			SARASOTA STORM 220 (S) (B Warren) M Bell 4-8-6 M Fembra	9
518	(12)	500/0-15	ESKIMO NEL B (D.BF,S) (First Chance Recorg) J Spearing 5-8-0 J F Eggen	9
~				4

	ORM
LOOKINGFORARAINBOW short-head 2nd Geean Park in handway at Leicester (1m 2 with REMAADI SUN head 3rd and ESKS 2941 5th. LEADING SPIRIT DENI COLOSSE	((2000) AD MEL 31 sz 9-
numes bandicap at Hamilton (1m 4f. good paraber 1995. ANOTHER TAME best Domi 9-numes rated states at Redear (1m 2f. & 20GAR best Battleshap Bruce 11 in 19	galloo am)DR
handicap al Folkestone (1m 11 149yd.	900d).

Portefraci (1m 2), good to limit) on pertuliaritate start. WESTMENSTER 244 (4th of 13 to Green Land in hundrag at Revealey (1m 44, firm) on pendifercate start. SWEET SUPPOSIN best Guest Altanuca. 41 in 5-numer claimer at Langled (AW, 1m 45). PRINCESS DAMELLE 734 301 of 27 in Manhai in the langled of the decided of the control of the decided of the d ladies handicap at Doncaster (1m 21 60yd. good) ESKUMO MEL beat Anchoreot 41 in 18-runner handicap at Beverley (1m 21, good). Selection: LODKINGFURARAMBOW

4.30 SHIPLEY COMMON HANDICAP (£3,152: 1m 6f 15yd) (14 runners)

Prince in a leady (
n	(11)	16050-3	ADMSPALS SECRET 16 (D,BF,F,S) (Mrs C Wall) C Wall 7-10-0 W Woods				
12	(4)		LONE THE BLUES 44J (Mrs C Smith) D Michelson 4-10-0 Par Eddery				
13	iπ		MIZYAN 15J (CD.F,G) (J Branchi) J Banks 8-9-13 J Clarin				
М	(2)	4400P-0	DALAK 8 (D Aboli) J L Hants 4-9-11				
15	(14)		FIREFIGHTER 1135J (G.S.) (J. Meredith) B Baugh 7-9-7 W Lord				
06	(TSI)	315260	CUANGO 8 (CD.SF.F.G.S) (Barouche Stod Lini) R Hollinghead 5-9-6 F Lynch (5)				
37	(2)		REASANESCUE 29J (Mrs. J. Spielman) P Murphy 4-9-8				
16	(7)	2308-40	VICTORIA'S SECRET 8 (Mrs V Tuckermen) M Checken 4-9-5 R Highes				
39	(B)	4000/	TIAPHENA 588 (Five Mations Panners) J Macion 5-8-10,				
10	(12)		BELLARA 192 (CD,F) (B Babbage) N Sabbage 4-8-10 W Ryan				
11	(B)	0000-	BRICK COURT 23J (R J Houghlon) R J Houghton 4-8-7, Barrie Smith (7)				
12	(10)		BOBBY'S DREAM 85 (Mrs P Kaiman) M Totophins 4-8-3				
13	(5)		BRESIL 120 (F) (P Sweeting) K Burle 7-7-10				
14	66		SHARMOOR 9 (T Heseltine) Miss L Stideli 4-7-10. F Norton				
•	•		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
ng handisap: Bresil 7-9, Sharmoor 7-3.							
П	46: 3	-7 Admendal	t Secret, 4-1 Love The Blues, 5-1 Microso, 8-1 Victoria's Secret, Cusago, 1	į			

FORM FOCUS

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS J Gosden H Cocal P Kallenay J Banks D Loder Mrs J Cocil Pat Eddery 1 Sprake 1 Culin D Biggs W Ryan P Robinson 79 47 88 37 145 97

Blinkered first time

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Cheltenham

Going: good to firm, good in places

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Hops And Pops (R Durwoody, 5-1): 2, Mole Board (9-4); 3, Boro Eight (7-4 fav), 4 ran. Hd. 3l, R Alner. Tote: 25-30, OF £5.90, CSF; £14.40 3.05 (2m 5l ch) 1, Gales Cavaller (M Dwyer 7-1), 2, Vilong Flogstop (4-9 tav), 3, Travado (11-4) 3 ran, Vir, dist. D Gandollo Tote: £4.80, DF: £1.90, CSF: £10.28

4.15 (3m 2i 110yd ch) 1, Proud Sun (M A Fitzgerald, 7-2), 2, Le Melle (6-1), 3, General Rusty (7-4 fav), 7 ran 41, 21, S Pike, Totar 54 90; 52.70, 53 40, DF: 522-30, CSF:

229 99.
4.50 (2m 4f holle) 1, Ramsdens (C Uswellyn, 7-2); 2, Chacodarl (7-4 lav); 3, Forestal (9-2); 5 ran. 9J, 211. N Twiston-Dames Total (24.30); £1.50, £1.60. DF: £3 70. CSF £9.38. Placepot: £5,614,40. Quedpot: £211.20. Hamilton Park

Going: good to soft, good in places
2.20 (1m 65yd) 1, Rambo Waltzer (Jo Hurnam, 9-4 (I-favi); 2, Snake Pissken (9-1); 3, Master Other House (9-1), Maple Bay 9-4 (I-fav 12 ran. 11/4, 11 D Nicholls. Tote: E3-40; E1-50, E3-30, E2-20. DF. E20 10 Tro: £69.10. CSF: £21.49. Tricast: £143.23.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Princess Danielle (4.00 Nottingham) Next best: Hal's Pal (3.30 Nottingham)

3.30 (6) 5yd) 1. My Gallary (Angela Galimore, 3-1 law), 2. Misser Westsound (9-1): 3. Garnock Valley (10-1): 4. Parther (12-1): 17 ran Nk. II. A Bailey Tote: £5 10; 22 10, £2 30, £2 60, £3 20 Df £28 40. Talo £38.60 CSF £30.55 Tites £24.55. 1243 65. 102

250,96 4.40 (1m 4l 17yd) 1, Eau De Cologne (D McKeown, 4-1); 2, Mentalgaenythin (6-1); 3, Astral Weeks; (7-2 layl), 97an, 194, 111, Thorrison, Tote: 25.50, 21.50, 21.90, 21.70. DF: 216 60. Trio: 225.60. CSF, E25.74. 5.16 (Im SI Pyrd) 1, Lord Hassie (O Pears, 13-2), 2, Sarawel (5-2 tay); 3, Palace Of Gold (10-1) 15 fan. 14, 1141 C Thomston Tote, £7.70, £3.80, £2.30, £3.40, DF: £15.80, Tio: £86.80, CSF: £23.40 Tricasi: £15.80, Tio: £86.80, CSF: £23.40 Tricasi: £15.80,

Placepot £1,069.10. Quadpot £124.80. Fontwell Park Going: good to firm

Going: good to Intra
2.10 (2m 61 holle) 1, Prince Nasha (D)
Waish, 100-30); 2, Quiet Dawn (6-4 kay); 3,
Mass Pimpernel (20-1) 13 ran 31, 71, K
Cunninghart-Brown, Tote: (5-40; E180,
6150, 96-50 DF, 24.10, Trio, 260-20 CSF528,40 Tricast: 520-40 Bought in 6,000gns
2.45 (2m 31 ch) 1, Herbert Buthantan (Mr J
Cutoty, 5-2); 2, Pontoon Bridge (6-4 kay); 3,
Cobb Gate (10-1), F1 ran, NR: Challenger
Row, 1161,41, P Nicholis, Tote: 24, 10; 21 60,
21.80, 21.60, DF: 24,40, Trio: 59.60, CSF
85.58

21.80, 21.60, 07: 24.40, 163: 28.80, CSP 26.58

3.20 (2m 21 hdie) 1, Keel Row (Mr.) Culloty, 8-1); 2, Amage (7-2 fay); 3, Moynsha House (4-1), 13 ran, Nr. 184. Thomson Jones, Tote: 210.10; 21.80, 21.80, 22.00. DF; 21.490, 160. Tho. E12.50, CSF, 234.70. Incast: 2120.72.

3.55 (3m 21 110yd ch) 1, Donna Del Lago (B Cifford, 9-2 fay); 2, Haristown Lady (6-1); 3, Cythere (6-1), 11 ran, Sh bd, 184. G McCourt, Tote, 25.00; 25.50, 25.50, 25.50. DF, 25.50. Tho. 253.60 CSF, 25.00, DF, 25.80. Tho. 263.60 CSF, 23.71. Tricast: 22.18.50

4.30 (3m 21 110yd hdie) 1, Ballyedward (8 Powel), 18-1); 2, Warheld Lad (11-4)-140); 3, Pretona Dancer (11-4)-140); 3, Pretona Dancer (11-4)-140); 1, Protein Dancer (11-4)-140); 1, Protein Dancer (11-4)-140). 3, Pretona Dancer (11-4)-140). 1, Protein See (J R 21-60). DF; 22.30, CSF, 256.14.

ur: £24.30. (Sh: £06.14.
Kavanagh, Evens fav. Thunderer's naph.
2, Varola (SO-1): 3. First Class (SO-1). 15
ran NR: Milltone NR. 61 G Emight Tole
21.00, £210, £17.10, £15.10 DF: £344.00
Tifer not won (pool of £661.68 carned
lorward to 2.30 at Nottinghorn today). CSF£62.79

Placepot £21.00. Quadpot £12.00.

BEVERLEY ...

THUNDERER 2.20 Contravene, 2.50 Hotspur Street, 3.20 Loose Talk, 3.50 Miss Riviera, 4.20 Carlito Brigante, 4.50 PRIMO LARA (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.20 scarborough selling stakes (2-Y-O: £2,616: 5f) (6 nunners) 5-4 Small Risk, 5-2 Costravene, 5-1 Mill End Gril, 7-1 Flood's Flyer, 10-1 Abstoni Queen, 12-1 Chilled Wine

2.50 BRIDLINGTON BAY HANDICAP

(\$3.287: 2m 35yd) (18)

1 (7) 34-0 MCMDRAGON 21 (CD,F,G) Mr. M Reveley 6-10-0 S Copp (7) 83
2 (9) OU, JUDICAL RELD 241 (F,G,S) N Tinkter 7-9-13. M Brich - 3 (16) 20-6 DONT PORSET CLRITS 9 6 Hotor 4-9-6. J Carroll 9 (4) 40-6 SMAFAR 361 V/F N Fortem 5-9-1. M Hills 90
5 (10) 2160 SHAMFAR 361 V/F N Fortem 5-9-1. M Hills 90
6 (2) 402- TRUE BRD 1182 J Bethell 4-9-9. J Wasney 87
7 (5) 30-3 HOTSPUR STREET 17 M W Easterly 4-9-0 DR McCabe (3) 93
9 (12) 00-0 PRINCE EQUINAME 21 J D Endy 4-8-4. M Connocton 98
9 (12) 00-0 PRINCE EQUINAME 21 J D Endy 4-8-4. M Connocton 98
10 (3) 40-0 BOLD BLETT B21 (G,F,G,S) E Alston 8-8-4. S D WRisms - 11
113) 5-01 ARIAN SPRIT 17 (D,F,G,S) 1 (yet 5-9-1 L Clasmock 90
12 (15) 3-55 SUDDEN SPIN 17 (0) 1 Notan 6-9-0. J Panning 68
13 (1) 00-2 TOP PIEZE 17 (V,CD,F,G,S) 4 (yet 5-9-1 L Clasmock 90
14 (6) 3510 SELMESTON 17 (0,5) P Falgue 4-7-11. D Wright (3) 90
15 (18) 70- PSIBOLA 1181 I Easterly 4-7-10. N Carbale - 16
111 406- GREAI ORATION 144 (D,F) F Watson 7-7-10 P Fressey (5) 89
17: 117 0-30 SILD TOP 2 (B) B Rotined 4-7-10. N Nameely 94
4-1 Anar-Spirl, 9-2 Hotspur Street 5-1 Mondasgon, 8-1 Smaler. Top Prize, 10-1 4-1 Anan Spiril, 9-2 Hotspur Street, 5-1 Monategoo, 8-1 Sanater, Top Prize, 10-1 True Bird, 12-1 Societa Spin, 14-1 others.

3.20 HUTTON CRANSWICK MAIDEN STAKES (£3,691: 5I) (10)

9-4 Loose Tab. 3-1 Total Aloof, 8-1 Bowlers Boy, Old Hush Wing, Eleanor May. 10-1 Divine Miss.-P., 12-1 others

3.50 LECONFIELD FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-0: £5,218: 1m 1f 207yd) (3) 1 (3) 1- MASS REMERA 161 (F) G Wragg 9-0 ... M Hills (8) 2 (1) 1 SIMPLY KATE 62 (0.6) D Lode 8-12 D R McCabe (3) 53 (2) 542- SLVER WRIG 188 M Be 8-10 ... G Faulkner (7) 93 Evans Mass Riviera, 7-4 Semply Kales, 7-2 Siver Wing.

4.20 HORNSEA MERE HANDICAP (£3,665: 1m 1f 207yd) (9)

(5) 400- WESTCOURT PRINCESS 188 (CD.F.G.) M W Easterly 4-7-10 G Bardwell 95

G Bardwell 95 6-4 Hazard A Guess, 9-2 Brave Patrianth, 6-7 Flag Feo, Carlling Briganile, 8-1 Wale. Nigol's Lad, 10-1 others.

4,50 WITHERNSEA HANDICAP (£4,029: 7f 100yd) (17)

4-1 Sycamore Lodge, 5-1 So Amazing, 11-2 Dances With Houses, 8-1 Up in Flames, Although S Male, 10-1 Assigner, Philip Laza, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

BEVERLEY: Transers: O Loder, 12 waters from 22 namers, 54.5%; M. Bell, 7 from 24, 29.2%; P. Nams, 7 from 25, 28.0%; P. Felsote, 4 from 18, 22.2%, M. Johnson, 19 from 87, 21.6%; J. Denkop, 8 from 39, 20.5%. Jockeys: D. R. McCabe, 5 winters from 23 ndte, 27.7%; G. Bardwell, 6 from 31, 19.4%; J. Wester, 17 from 111, 15.2%; J. Carrott, 13 from 90, 14.4%; Alex Greaves, 6 from 48, 12.5%, A. Mackop, 4 from 34, 11.6%.

BRIGHTON

THUNDERER

2.10 Masterstroke. 2.40 Shikari's Son. 3.10 Double Matt. 3.40 Apollono. 4.10 Spillo. 4.40 Courbaril. 5.10

Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.40 IKHTIRAA.

GOING: FIRM DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.10 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SOUTHWICK MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £2,762. 5(59yd) (8 runners) ASSENSITIONS 6 B Meeton 9-0
OUR REMIN K McZulifle 9-0
SALTY BEHAMOUR 8 P Hammon 9-0
MOLILIY M Channon 8-9
NIGHTIMSALE SONG M Meade 3-9
RICYAL EMBLEM A FLORE 8-9
RICYAL EMBLEM A FLORE 8-9
SINEFORYOURSUMPER 6 Managam 1

6-4 Macterstroke, 7-4 Salty Behavegur, 5-1 MoRity, 8-1 others 2.40 ELM GROVE CLAIMING STAKES

(£2,381: 5(213yd) (10) 1 00F - SHICARTS SON 209 (CD.F.G) J Cullman 9-9-12 J Reid 2 0001 ROCKVILLE PINE 8 (V.G.S.) S Don 4-8-0 S Dutfield 5 3 -600 AGWA 62 (D.F.G) R D'Sullman 7-9-12 S Whoten 1 1 5 0000 SOUTHERN DOLENGON 8 (D.G) C Allen 4-8-12 N Actures 8 6 3430 APOLLO RED 29 (CD.G.S) A More 7-8-10 Cantly Morris 6 7 00-0 BAILEYS SUMSET 29 (CD.F.G) Bradley 4-9 S Drowns (3) 9 8 60-4 CEDAR DANCER 8 R Hodges 4-6-3 N A Whetam (3) 1 9 0040 CHEF'S LAVY 20 J Bradley 4-8-3 P P Murphy (5) 4 10 6540 BRANSTON KRISTY 34 (8) C Small 4-8-1 M Henry (9) 7 2-1 Rockville Pileo, 5-2 Shatan's San. 8-1 Cedar Luncer, Darbysh, 10-1 other:

3.10 BRIGHTON SPRING HANDICAP

(£3,861 5f 213yd) (14) E3,861 · 51 · 21 · 3y(1) · (14)

1 · 433- TART AND A HALF 225 (C.F.) B Mexican 4-10-0 G Hannon (7) 2

2 · 431- DDUBLE MATT 223 (D.F.) if Harmon 4-9-13 Dane O'Real (5) 14

3 · 4560 TAFAHHUS 21 (C.D.) M Polytze 4-9-9 D Hartson 13

4 · 545- DRY POWT 239 (D.F.) Toler 10-9-7 G Driefidd 6

5 · 200- BASHFUL BRAVE 207 (F. J. Deyno 5-9-5 R Contrare 5

6 · 1-50 PRIMAS SLK 67 (D.F.) M Posymo 1 · 9-1 A Clara 9

4 · 430 MALBERT 18 (N.C.) P Busymo 1 · 9-1 P MCZbe (3) 1

8 · 413 SPEEDY CLASSIC 29 (D.F.G) M Heason-Fits 7-8-7 S Dromes (3) 8

9 · 3005 BOCCOSAUGER 18 (B.D.F.) B Meganzon 4-8-5 P Boorded 7

10 · 32-4 LA BELLE DOMBNOUE 78 S Knight 4-9-5 B Doyle 3

11 · 2542 BNOCATION 8 (D.F.S) A Moore 9-8-4 A Vinetair (3)

12 · 1231 MINI CAMARD 14 (D.F.S) B Peaire 3-8-2 S Sanders 12 11 2542 RWOCATION 6 (0.1.5) A Moore 9-8-4 . A Vinetam (3) (0 12 1231 MOL CAMARD 14 (0.1.5) B Peierre 3-8-2 . S Sanders (3) (1 3 400- MARTINISKY 33 (1(0.1.5) 6 Seasery 10-8-0 Declar D She 2 1 14 005- ASTERIX 2304 (V.D.F.6) J Boxfey 8-7-13 M Henry (5) 4

3-1 Double Matt., 9-2 Tart And A Hall, 6-1 Dry Pours, Invocation, 8-1 others. 3.40 HOLLINGBURY LIMITED STAKES

2.3, 7.2° Ol 2 USY(0) (9)

1 0351 CRYSTAL HEIGHTS 43 (CD,F,G) R 0°Sultwan 8-9-9 S Sanders S
2 -840 NEINWEST 21 (R) N Walter 4-9-9 J Stack. (3) 9
3 2530 STAR TALENT 22 (D,G,S) Mrs 6 Relieuxy 5-9-9 R Cochrane 2
4 -500 ARTAL 59 (0.6) R Hodges 6-9-7 S Drowne (3) 4
5 000- ARTALL 59 (0.6) R Hodges 6-9-7 Dane 0 Neall (3) 6
6 23-0 BAGSHOT 21 (D,F,S) R Henton 5-9-7 Dane 0 Neall (3) 6
6 24-0 HOMORAUS 194 (CD,F,G) S Dow 4-9-7 A Day (5) 6
6 0-98 CHAMPACNE STARMY 8 (D,F,G,S) M Cramon 1-9-6
P P Marphy (S) 3
9 245- DELIGHT OF DAWN 175 (D,F,G) K hopy 4-9-4 ... C Scally (7) 7

4.10 VARINDEAN MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,381 · 1m · 11 209yd) (6)

0 FOLLOWITHE ALLSTARS 10 1 Margition 9-0 D Harrison 6
0-5 ISTORF 41 C Dwyer 9-3 K Rutter 1
03-4 SPALLO 13 L Curtain 9-0 PP Marphy (5) 2
30-0 WIRE ACT 8 M Meage 9-0 PR Harrison (5) 3
MY BEAUTIFUL DREAM A Reseconde 8-9 R Cochrone 4 4-7 Spullo, 11-4 Sunley Secure, 8-1 Wire Act, 14-1 Island, 25-1 others

4.40 SHEEPCOTE VALLEY HANDICAP (£2.381: 1m 3f 196yd) (18)

(\$2,381: 1m 3i 196yd) (18)

1 000- SPJARANTE 43J M Margeridge 4-10-0 Dame O'Neill (5) 10
2 6-40 COURBAREL 52 (CDF,5) S Dow 49-12 A Daily (5) 8
3 440- PARADEE WATERS 786 (7) 8 Johnson Houghton 4-9-10 J Red 1
4 500- SHAMRAIN 171 B Meeban 4-9-6 B Doyle 17
5 -902 GUEST ALIANDEE 14 (6) A Moore 4-9-4 Damby Morate 5
6 -125 ADAR 53 (6) Miss: C Nedwary 5-9-4 A R Cochrane 2
7 210- DOUBLE RUSH 143 (7) 1 Mills 4-9-4 S Withbornth 7
8 4-45 RISKY TU 45 (0,6) F Nedwary 5-9-1 C Downseyue (7) 14
9 0-50 UNCHARTED WATERS 66 (7) C Oyer 5-9-0 G Duthield 4
0 6-40 EMER REGISS 11 (6) R Hauts 4-6-10 D Batters 16
11 0400 THE CAVE DOCTOR 14 A Fostor 4-8-9 D Harrison 12
12 00-0 MARDMETTA 17 J M Risca 4-7 D Dames 12
13 1366 MARTINA A 68 (D.D.6.5) R O'Subran 6-8-5 S Sanders 3
14 00- BRONGE MAGUETTE 317 (6) I Hood 6-8-3 M Henry (5) 18
15 60-D LIMAR RISKY 31 J (VD.F. 6) Mics B Sanders 5-2 A Wheten (3) 9
16 0087 SET-EM-ALIGHT 24 I E Sander 5-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
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18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13
18 000 P GRAYDO CHOOLE 14 P Cards 3-7-10 R Madden (7) 13 4-1 Parachise Waters, 6-1 Guest, Alfabrae, 7-1 Double Rush, 6-1 Courtains, Aydas, 12-1 Risky Tu, 16-1 pitters.

5.10 CHURCHILL SQUARE HANDICAP (£3,316[,] 7f 214yd) (15)

7-2 Mr Nevermind 5-1 if shebusiness, 6-1 Akmapa, 10-1 Explosive Power, Crested Knight, 12-1 Mr Rough, 14-1 others

Unknown veteran makes confident start to first Masters challenge

Dougherty soaks up the Augusta atmosphere



ANDREW LONGMORE

At Augusta

s Ed Dougherty stood A on the lst tee at the Masters yesterday morning, the sunlight break-ing through, the air still chill, John O'Connor was praying for one more good shot. Just for old time's sake, for the sake of all those hours trudging round the Edgmont course together and the 21 years it has taken his old friend to reach the lofty eminence of that 1st

Dougherty, a smile of relief crossing his well-worn face, duly obliged, his drive soaring down the fairway to a position even the man himself never really believed he would find. At the age of 48, Dougherty has waited longer than most to make his debut among the rhododendrons and the cypress trees of the Augusta National and, he admitted earlier in the week, having

history behind him rather than The thrill of in front at least gave him a sense of perspective. being here. A Vietnam veteran, albeit reluc-That's why tantly advertised,

and a regular visthis is so itor to the dreadspecial' ed "Q" school, where thrusting tyros and ageing pros try to gain their US PGA card. he has known worse feelings than standing in front of a few people at America's

spiritual home of golf and hitting a little white ball towards a yellow flag. Yet it still did not steady his swing or his knees when it came right I only began thinking about golf when I hit a decent pitch on the 3rd," he said. What had been occupying him before that? The thrill of

what it will mean to those

friends who I've known since I

first started playing. That's why this is so special." Halfway down the 1st tee. Dougherty stopped to share the time of day with friends. not something you might catch Nick Faldo doing at the opening hole of a major. Then he went and hit his second into

a bunker — "a horrible shot."

he later admitted. Two holes later, he was two over par and beginning to wonder whether the whole thing, the round he had lived through in his imagination roughly every springtime, was not going to slip into embarrassment. Even when he made the putting green, the surface was quicker, more slippery, than he had anticipated. "Scarier than it was in practice," he

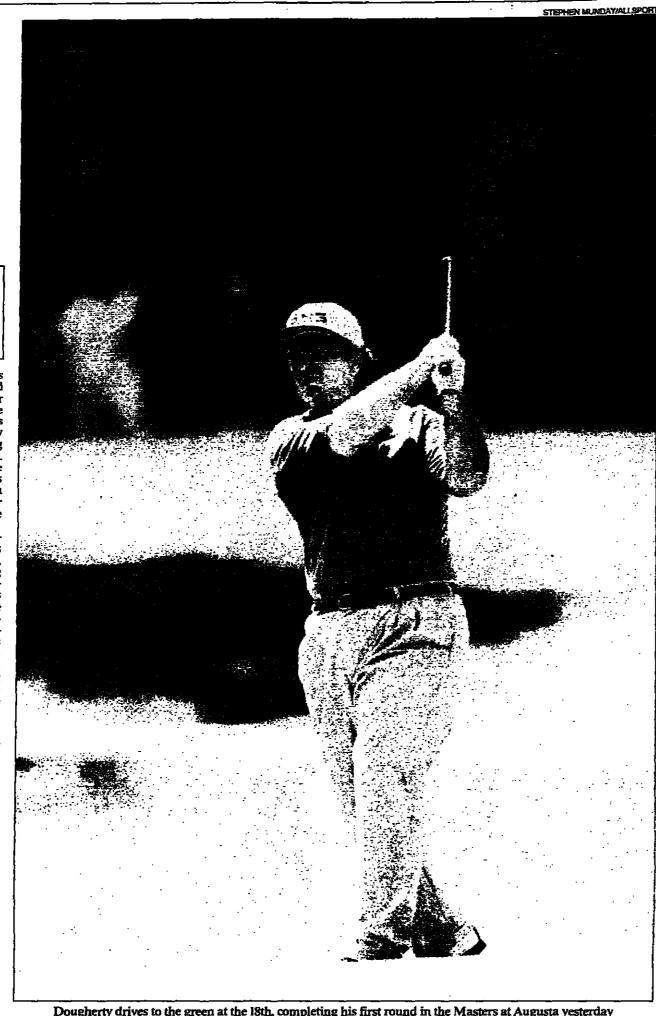
Perhaps Augusta's tradition, its companionship, its clubbiness and exclusivity. which can be both warming and intimidating but is un also a lonelier feeling than he had expected, something deeper than the mere mispronunciation of his name - it is Docherty, not Dowerty which had nearly cost him his hotel booking at the start

> gherty's sense of belonging had to be home-made. brought with him in the form of his wife, Carolyn, and men like O'Connor and Bill Payne, people

of the week. Dou-

que the previous evening and much of his welllife before that. Payne said as he walked up the 18th, "we've walked a long way from where we came from.

In golfing terms, a brief moment at the head of the US PGA leaderboard - "they were just putting up the 'y' as they were taking down the 'd', as he memorably put it at the time - brought one family connection no one could match. When Dougherty and twenties and assistant professionals at Edgmont, they would shut up shop early on the course before sundown. One evening, the call came through on the course that Furyk's wife had gone into labour. Some hours later, she produced Jim Furyk, who yesterday completed a circle of sorts by making his Masters



Dougherty drives to the green at the 18th, completing his first round in the Masters at Augusta yesterday

debut, at the age of 25. "When Jimmie came onto the circuit," Dougherty said. That's when I began to leel really old."

 As if advancing age was not enough to contend with, a long-standing neck injury, suffered while moving a pinball machine, has been causing Dougherty pain for some months now. Restoring pin-

ball machines is one of Dougherry's hobbies. Model trains is another, safer, one.

By rights, he should have had an operation done during the winter, but having qualified for the Masters by winning the Deposit Guarantee Golf Classic (such catchy titles) last season, he was not about to risk the accomplishment of his life merely through the

surgeon's knife. "I don't think I would be putting it off for anything else," he said.

It would be nice to report a happy ending to this story, but a double-bogey six on the last ruined an otherwise respectable round. A 76, four over par, still leaves Dougherty with a chance of making the last two days and his pitch into the bank at the side of the oth,

which bobbled up and landed about two feet from the hole. was the shot of the day, though few saw it.

Even fewer will remember the Dougherty's of this tournament come Sunday afternoon. "I guess the Masters has done quite well without me until now," he said. It will be all the richer for his presence this week, though.

out in the cold after Warrington agree sale

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

NOT only has Mike Ford been left out of Warrington's side for the visit of Halifax in the Stones Super League tonight, the club has agreed a deal for the former Great Britain rugby league scrum half to join Wakefield Trinity.

Ford, 30, has to confirm the move himself, but appears to have little option. Since leaving Castleford two years ago. not much has gone right for the former Wigan scrum half. A season with South Queensland Crushers failed to work out, while infrequent and indifferent displays have punctuated his short time at

Wilderspool.

John Dorahy, the Warrington coach, said: "Mike showed in our opening game. at Leeds, he is a tremendous competitor. Unfortunately for him, the club sees fit to let him go and perhaps the time is now right for a move. The final decision rests with

Mike.' Ford's move to first-division Wakefield would keep him in good company, with Greg Mackey, whom Ford ousted at Warrington, enjoying a new lease of life alongside Garry Schofield at Huddersfield and Shane Cooper directing affairs behind the scrum at Widnes

Kelly Shelford takes over at scrum half for Warrington and Mateaki Mafi, of Tonga, and Gary Chambers are recalled at centre and prop forward, respectively, following Monday's defeat at Wigan. Like Leeds, who yesterday

announced the first of three overseas signings — Nathan Picchi, 2l. a New Zealand loose forward, previously with Hawkes Bay — Halifax, surprisingly, are bumping along the bottom of the Super League without a win. They had chances to beat London Broncos and Oldham Bears and, abjectly, surrendered an 18-point lead to Castleford Tigers on Tuesday.

Halifax must do without Graeme Hallas, the wing, and Paul Anderson, a prop. who were given two-match bans by the Rugby Football League disciplinary committee last night. Hallas was cited by the League for a challenge on Rob Myler, the Oldham wing, who sustained a broken nose. Anderson was sent off in the same match for a dangerous

A one-match ban for Karl Fairbank has saved the Bradford Bulls forward from missing the Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final on April 27. His punishment for a high tackle at Sheffield means that he will be absent from the Wembley dress-rehearsal at St Helens on Sunday.

Ford is left | Disciplined style of rivals sets example to Britain

FROM NORMAN DE MESQUITA IN EINDHOVEN

A 6-5 DEFEAT by Latvia, one of the favourites to win pool B of the world ice hockey championships here, might have appeared a promising start for Great Britain, but the final game on the opening day of the tournament put that scoreline into perspective.

Belorussia beat Switzerland 4-2 in an outstanding game which was played at breath taking pace and showed both teams to be highly skilled, as well as fast, fit and strong. Although the decisive goal came as the result of a goaltending error, both goaltenders made many excellent saves and both teams were highly effective on the break.

When Great Britain led Latvia 5-3, the obvious tactics should have been to play tight and close down the opposition. But British ice hockey places too little emphasis on defence and it was only the fine performance of Stephen Foster in the Great Britain goal that restricted the Latvians to three further goals. Far too often in the later stages of the game, he was left exposed. Another aspect of Britain's

unt wa ochalle

facing

his fre

game that must be addressed is the lack of discipline that incurs so many penalties. Three of Latvia's goals were scored with a Britain player in the penalty box and, while there were one or two refereeing decisions that could have been questioned, the penalties were, on the whole, deserved.

The Britain players must realise that the excessively physical style of play that is tolerated in their domestic game is not acceptable in international competition.

Doug Mason, the Canadian-born coach of the Holland team, believes that this lack of discipline gives his team a realistic chance of beating Britain. "If the referee is on top of it." he said, "Britain could get so many penalties that we will be able to take advantage and beat them, as long as we keep our own discipline.'

It must be hoped that the Great Britain coach, Peter Woods, who watched the game between Belorussia and Switzerland, learnt from their physical but disciplined style.

After the Latvia game, Woods was critical of the officials. "The refereeing was a bit one-sided and the penalty which led to their winning goal was something of a mystery call," he said. "We had nine penalties while they had only two, and the refereeing was a major factor."

However, instead of querying the penalty decisions. Woods might be better served trying to prevent a repeat of the ill discipline which brought them about.

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Pitch battle ends in time

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN IN ATLANTA

THE numerous administrative problems that threatened the cancellation of the six nations' hockey tournament here were resolved late on Wednesday night and the event was due to get underway yesterday on the practice pitch at the Clarke University stadium. Workmen were busy putting the finishing touches to the stadium's main pitch. which will be ready for use tomorrow. Today is a rest day, which will enable the work to be completed in

Mark Whitney, the director of communications for the United States Field Hockey Association, said yesterday that British protests had abated after a workout on the practice pitch. Britain had hreatened to withdraw from the tournament. The Clarke University stadi-

um, which has a capacity of 5,000, will be one of two

venues used for the Olympic Games in July. A four nations' tournament for men and women was played here last August, but the main pitch was taken apart after complaints from participating teams and a ruling by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) that it would not be suitable for an Olympic tournament.

Whitney explained, was to hold the six nations tournament at the Morris Brown College stadium, where the main matches for men and women at the Olympic Games are to be played. Construction delays forced us to aban-don the idea of holding the six nations' tournament there and to switch it to the Clarke University premises, where we ran into further problems." Whitney said.

The original intention,

By the middle of last week, the organisers thought of call-

ing the whole thing off, but, with strong urgings by the FIH, they decided to make a special effort to hold the event.
The FIH had stressed that the participating teams were depending on the six nations' tournament for the final selection of their Olympic squads," Whitney said.

The tournament is expected to be in full swing tomorrow, when all the matches will be switched from the practice ground to the main pitch. Great Britain are due to play Pakistan and, on Sunday, will take on India, with whom they drew 3-3 in the qualifying tournament in Barcelona in

GREAT BRITAIN SOLIAD: S Mason (Reading). D Luckes (East Grinstead), J Wyatt (Reading). J Halfs (Old Loughton-tars), Some Singh (Southspate), S Hazitti (Hourslow), J Laslett (Teddington, captain), Kalbir Takher (Carnock), R Thompson (Old Loughtoniars), C Mayer (Cannock), G Fordham (Hourslow), R Garcia (Polo Culo, Barcelona), J Shew (Southgate), C Giles (Havant), M Peam (Reading).

Dutch warm up with comfortable victory

By ALIX RAMSAY

CONCEDING five goals is hardly the best preparation for an international against Holland, but it is the best the Great Britain women's hockey team could manage yesterday at Bisham Abbey. The two sides met for a training match as part of the build-up for the televised encounter tomorrow, but the 5-2 scoreline would have done rather more for the Dutch morale.

Britain started enthusiastically, trying to break down a solid defence, but could not find a way through. The enthusiasm waned when they went a goal down, Steenberg hitting in from a penalty corner after 24 minutes. Ten minutes later, Holland showed how to slice through a lethargic defence, as Donners got the second.

Two goals in three minutes in the second half saw the

Dutch put paid to the British challenge. Lewin made it 3-0 with a stylish individual effort while Van der Wieler squeezed in the fourth after an error by Robb, in the Britain goal. The hosts made the score a little more respectable with a Fraser penalty corner and a Cook penalty stroke, but Holland's work was almost done. Just for good measure, Van der Wieler cracked in a fifth, with two minutes left.

Sue Slocombe, the Great Britain coach, had to admit that the Dutch had been "sharper and more clinical".

Despite the gloom at Bisham Abbey, celebrations are expected in Doncaster tomorrow. Hightown, the premier division leaders, have only to beat their Yorkshire hosts to win their first league title, having already won the European Cup Winners Cup.

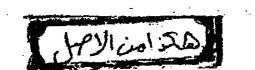


Corey Pavin's playing

a whole new ball game at the Masters.

Corey Pavin switched to HP2 Tour, Titleist's revolutionary new golf ball, because it delivers a perfect blend of balata-like soft feel and touch, with the distance of a two-piece. Wish his opponents good luck at Augusta. They're going to need it,





IN BRIEF

Harrow hit

back to

clinch cup

victory

HARROW, the defending

champions, were given a

fright by Taunton in the first

round of the Public Schools' Golf Society's Halford Hewitt

Title climax offers timely bonus for Wales

the Heineken League first division in Wales is moving towards an exciting and wildly unpredictable climax. Neath occupy top position with 54 points: Puntypridd, six points behind, have a game in hand; Cardiff, with two games in hand, lie third with 47 points. Llanelli's chances look to have disappeared with their loss to Bridgend last Saturday ... yet, they have 46 points and a game advantage over the leaders. All is not entirely

Normally, given these statistics, it would not be too presumptuous of Neath, with four games to play, to have their victory celebrations well under way - but this is not a normal season. It is not merely the two victory points that are at stake in each match, but there are bonus points available, too.

Last September, a two-tier points system was introduced to the Heineken League. As well as the points gained for

winning a game, there were additional points awarded for the number of tries each side might score in a match. On a graded system, that allowed a point for three tries and another for five tries. Teams could accumulate, if they scored seven tries and more, a maximum of three extra

The Welsh Rugby Union thought such a system necessary because of the limited technical and tactical aspirations that manifested themselves on a weekly basis among the clubs fixtures. Matches, if tense and full of furious commitment, were invariably of the grimacing. muscular sort. Pinching the footballers line, rugby players talked self-justifyingly of the manner they came away "with a result" when they had the victor's two points in the bag. Such comment was often as predictable and colourless as the game they had played.

This was increasingly dis-



GERALD DAVIES

Rugby Commentary

Tactics were based around too much kicking, while the interminable mauls were prominent, aggravating and frustrating. Rugby was played at a pedestrian pace, geared to the slowest thinker and runner rather than the swiftest. This applied not only to

Wales. Something needed to be done in order to raise the skilful qualities in a game, to encourage those aspects of rugby that prove more subtly appealing and to ensure that rugby rewarded initiative and not merely the imitative. Some stimulus was required.

If the motivation did not come from within the clubs as it should have, but patently had not during the five-year

lifetime of the Heineken League - then it might have to be imposed superficially from the outside. So the bonus system came into being.

There have been cries that this is too artificial an inducement - it may be - but Wales might need this kind of thing in a way New Zealand and Australia naturally do not. They have a keener willingness to explore the possibilities within the laws and refine their skills accordingly, rather than negatively to exploit ways around them, or moan about them, which is this country's

congenital problem.

Tries may not be the be-all and end-all of rugby, but they do indicate a more positive attitude towards the way the

game should be played. This has proved to be the case in Wales. So often this season. teams have played to the final whistle when, to all intents and purposes, the contest might well have been over long before. Teams are less likely to close up the game in the final minutes because of the availability of bonus

Twice in recent weeks, Neath, near half-time, have been losing by double figures yet by the end have gone on to accumulate the maximum number of points. They have already scored 94 tries compared with last year's 33. Pontypridd, Llanelli and Swansea have also scored more than last season, though Cardiff have not.

Admittedly, there have been ridiculous scores. Cardiff and Neath have each recently notched 95 points in one game. Embarrassing though this may be, it is nonetheless the kind of attitude top teams need to generate in a way that has TABLE

come to be associated with the All Blacks, for instance. Competition needs to be somewhat hard-nosed.

There is, however, an inherent weakness in the present system. The bonus points should not, as they do, add up to more than the points gained for winning a garne. The aim. after all, is to win and that this should count for less than the maximum bomus points is absurd. Although they lost by 95 points to Cardiff recently. Abertillery still managed to collect two bonus points from the five tries they scored. Thus

every match, yet, through the accumulation of tries, accrue 66 league points. This is more than Pontypridd, with 59 points, had in second position last year.

Theoretically, too, a team could win the championship without winning a game. This is an unlikely possibility, but such anomalies, however farfetched, should be written out of the competition rules nevertheless.

At any rate, the system has

Cup at Royal Cinque Ports. Deal, yesterday (Mel Webb provided such a grand finale writes). Taunton led in four of to the championship, with the five foursomes matches at such speculation and great one stage, but Harrow recovexpectations, that there will be ered to win 3-2. live television coverage in First and second-round Wales. If Cardiff play Ponty-pridd on May 10, the champmatches in this competition. one of the biggest foursomes events in amateur golf, are played at Royal Cinque Ports. Deal, and St George's, Sandionship title may not be settled until four days later, when the two final matches of the wich. At St George's, the upset season will involve the four of the day was provided by Bedford when they beat Marlclubs that are at present in the top positions: Cardiff v Llanel-Neath v Pontypridd. A borough 3-2. The competition was started fiction writer could not have in 1924 by Hal Hewitt, an Old

team - 14 times. Sapsford falls

Carthusian and, appropriately, Charterhouse have won the

cup more often than any other

Tennis: Danny Sapsford followed fellow Britons Tim Henman and Mark Petchey out of the Indian Open in New Delhi yesterday, With Henman having gone down to Frederick Fetterlein, of Denmark, and Petchey having been beaten by Thomas Enqvist, of Sweden, the top seed, Sapsford, was beaten 6-1. 6-2 in the second round by Byron Black, of Zimbabwe. the No3 seed. Wayne Ferreira, the No2 seed, was knocked out by the unseeded Alex Radulescu, of Germany.

Swift return

Cycling: Max Sciandri, who is preselected for Britain's road race team for the Olympic Games in Atlanta, will be back in competition much earlier than he expected after a heavy fall in Belgium on Wednesday. An orthopaedic specialist yesterday found that the Britishborn, Italian-based rider had not broken his left wrist, as suspected. He could be racing again as early as the Amstel Gold Race on April 27.

New limits

Snooker: World ranking events will be restricted to 90 players from the 1997-98 season, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) decided vester day. The move will dispense with six or seven qualifying rounds for each of the circuit's ten ranking events at Blackpool each summer. Other players will compete on B and C circuits to earn places in a four-week summer qualifying school, to which those finishing 65th to 96th on the main tour will also be relegated. The proposal was passed by 53 votes to four at an extraordinary general meeting of the WPBSA in Bristol. The meeting also voted to reduce the ruling board from ten to seven members but rejected a proposal that they should be paid.

Hunt warms to challenge of facing the big freeze

Russell Kempson meets a man preparing to swap Swindon Town for the North Pole

WHEN Swindon Town secure the Endsleigh Insurance League second division championship, probably, and Liverpool beat Manchester United to win the FA Cup final, possibly, Rikki Hunt will be with them in spirit. In body, protected by layers of insulated clothing, he will be thousands of miles away. hopefully nearing a similarly notable and noble success.

Hunt - director of football 3 Swindon, and fanatical follower of Liverpool — will be approaching the North Pole. On foot. He leaves for Canada today and, by the time Swindon trot out at the County Ground against Burnley on Wednesday, he should have set off into the wild, white

yonder. Weather permitting. By the time Liverpool take on United at Wembley on May II, he will be a speck on the frozen wastes; at last experiencing what months of training and acclimatisation had prepared him for. Why else would he spend a day in an industrial freezer at the Smithfield meat market?

The first thing you notice is that your nostrils freeze up." Hunt, 42, said, "Fortunately, I prefer cold to heat. I'm not one for laying on the beach."

Though the former oil company executive -- he was born J. R. Hunt — has climbed Snowdon and Mont Blanc, he

ighteen months ago.

Dave Sutton was ready

football. He had parted com-

pany with Rochdale United,

after four years as manager

had brought three successive

near-misses from a place in

the Endsleigh Insurance League third division play-

offs, and gone into partner-

ship with his father selling

bedding plants in Southport.

season, however, he was ap-

proached by Jack Kirkland,

the chairman of a business

has become a priority at the

expense of a middling league

season. Fit and firing on all

cylinders, however, is the

strike partnership of Brian

Ross and Lee Trundle, Ross,

Towards the end of last

to turn his back on

had never contemplated trekking 350 miles, for up to 40 days, in temperatures that could drop to minus 40. Not to mention invading the privacy of polar bears.

"I'm told they haven't got great eyesight. They think we're seals," he said. "If it's any consolation, once they've torn you to pieces they don't eat you because they don't like the taste. We'll be taking rifles, just in case, but I hope we don't have to use them."

Hunt's Scouse humour will be much in demand when the lo-strong expedition - ten novices, including a cameraman, four professionals and two guides - departs from Resolute Bay, led by David Hempleman-Adams, the explorer. Negotiating contracts, signing-on fees and win bonuses, is easy; wait until the blizzard sets in, the supplies run low and the first signs of frostbite appear.

His adventures began when he met Hempleman-Adams at a prize-giving ceremony, discovered he was an armchair Swindon supporter and invited him to a match. A bet was struck involving Snowdon, Mont Blanc followed, now the Pole, the co-ordinates of which - 78.50N, 104.20W are ingrained on Hunt's subconscious.

Hunt was selected from 500 applicants, hopes to raise

Chorley seek fitting reward

* for their revival in fortune

Walter Gammie

looks at a club

enjoying a new

lease of life in the

FA Umbro Trophy

the England semi-profession-

al striker, was brought back to

Chorley from Marine for

£16,000 and Trundle signed from Burscough for £7,000,

with Sutton not even having

seen him play. The gamble

the first El million non-

League player and that he will

play for England," Sutton said. "His skills are unbeliev-

able. It's just a privilege to

turn up and work with him.

After two weeks, Bolton and

Nottingham Forest wanted

him down and Glasgow

Rangers have recently been

It may be wise not to scoff at

Sutton's seemingly inflated

expectations. He has already

sold a youth-team striker in a

deal that may bring Chorley

£350,000. David Eatock, who

had been working in a

scrapyard, went to Newcastle

United in August for an initial

fee of £25,000 - breaking the

club record of £22,500 re-

reived for Paul Mariner from

laziness or what, but it amazes

me that Football League clubs

don't show more interest in

non-League players," Sutton

said. He hopes, however, to

hang on to Trundle long

I don't know whether it's

Plymouth Argyle in 1979.

heading the queue."

"I believe Trundle could be

has already paid off.



Hunt gets into shape for his epic journey to the North Pole and the prospect of sub-zero temperatures and polar bears roaming the Arctic

paid £15,000 for the privilege of turning blue in front of an audience. It is the first time that such an adventure will be beamed, by satellite, into the centrally heated sitting-rooms of England.

He dismisses suggestions of favouritism. "It's a life-endangering thing, there's only a 50 per cent chance of success, so they're not going to take anybody just because they're a friend," he said. "It's going to be about endurance and a positive state of mind which,

plan to return Chorley to the Conference, in which they

played from 1988-90, "in two

the leisure industry, like Sut-

ton, has found non-League

football a revelation. A school-

mate of Tom Finney and a Hifelong Preston North End

devotee, he first saw Chorley

play two years ago and be-

"We've got a nice ground." he said. "We'll easily get it

back up to Conference stan-

dard. It's got the potential to

become a 12,000-seat stadium

- you never know." Chorley

have bought the rugby league

club that had been their

tenants and look forward to

vear-round revenue.

promising.

second leg," he said.

came hooked.

Kirkland, a consultant in

E20,000 for charity and has after all the tests we've been through, I think I've proved I have.

> "I will be focusing on the finish line and drag my body to meet my brain. I'm excited, when perhaps I should be a bit more fearful, but we're going with very experienced people. Even a recently broken right hand, sustained when he was learning how to ski, has failed

to dampen his enthusiasm. Though on a year-long sabbatical from work, while he plots his next-career move, Hunt maintains his management skills by haggling, un-paid, with the players of Swindon and their advisers. It is a verbal and mental dexterity learnt at an early age, as one of eight children, the son of a boiler engineer, brought up in Kirkby, Merseyside.

Expelled from school, he progressed from the local fruit market to night-shift shelfstacker, from health food shop proprietor to oil baron in 1993, in a Liverpool newspaper poll, he was voted one of the city's 100 Living Legends. He has given a lecture,

entitled "The Thinking Organisation", at the Royal Albert Hall, and his home in Lightwater, Surrey, where he lives with his wife, Jan, and sons, Martin, six, and Robert, two, is full of the mind-overmatter mottos that will help him beat the frozen north. On the walls of his gym, amid the football memorabilia, are the framed slogans: "Find out or miss out", "Live it or leave it", "To know is to grow".

"I believe in pushing my-self," he said. "You have to think, rather than learn or act,

FOR THE RECORD

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First div. Whickham 0 Durham 1 Murion 2 Whitby 1. Tow Law 3 Shidon 0, HELLENG LEAGUE: Premier divelon Swindon Supermanne 6 Kintbury 0.

and a lot of it is about challenging yourself. You don't have to do the daft things I'm doing but you should continually strive to do something more and not accept that where you are now is where you're going to be tomorrow. "I don't really work, I'm a lazy person, but I find creative ways of getting people to do it for me." As Swindon make their final push for promotion. and Liverpool eye the FA Cup. he will be confronting the coldest of realities: he cannot delegate this job.

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit 7 Seattle 3; Baltimore 3 Claveland 2 (in 10 inns); Toronto 1 California 2 Postponed: Boston v Minnesota,

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Beston 108 Washington 122; Cheriotia 85 Miami 116; Detroit 92 Philadelphia 76; Orlando 116 Cleveland 104; Minnesota 90 LA Lalairs 111; Utah 103 Phoenix 79; San Amtonio 106 Vancouver 82; Seattle 108 Sacramento 89.

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent (final day of three): New Zeeland XI 318-9 dec and 204-

number Unrine, Sit Vincent (final day of three): New Zeeland 30 318-9 dec and 204-7 dec (C 2 Harris 55 not out), West Indias Board 30 158 (S L Campbell 79, C L Cams, 5-29) and 209 (M Ventura 51) New Zeeland ston by 155 n.ms. CYCLING

BASQUE TOUR: Third stage (193km, from Galdakano in Vitoria): 1, 5 Zanni (ii) 4hr 58min 56sec: 2, R Virenque (Fri: 3, B Hemburger (Den): 4, C Chappuc (ii): 5, D Rebetin (ii): 6, J Ulrich (Ber) all same time Overall positions: 1, F Casagrande (it) 13 1358, 2, A Okano (Sp) at 2sec, 3, M Glarmetti (Switz) 4: 4, D Gercia (Sp) same time: 5, S Della Santa (it) 8; 6, J Montoya (Sp) 8

GAND TO WEVELGEM RACE (208km). T Steels (Bel) 4hr 53min Oset, 2, G Lombardi (II), 3, F Beldato (II), 4, L Michaelsen (Den); 5, L Van Bon (Holi); 6, B Boscardin (II) all same time.

utton knows it must FOOTBALL work better than the experience he endured ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Milwell 2 Birmingham City 0. when Rochdale Hornets shared Spotland. "Revenue PWDL F APE was to be shared 45-45, with Sundriend 41 21 14 6 58 31 77 Dextry 42 20 14 8 66 46 74 ten per cent going to the Council," he said. "It never got C Palace. 42 18 15 9 82 45 69 Cranfton 40 16 16 8 53 42 64 Stoke 40 16 12 12 53 44 60 (pswich 40 16 11 13 71 80 59 anywhere at all. There were two different offices, two dif-Huddrsid 41 16 11 14 56 Leicester 47 15 13 13 57 Southend 42 14 13 15 49 Bernengham ... 41 14 12 16 55 ferent changing rooms and two different commercial

staffs. It didn't really generate any profit." Under one roof. the prospects are far more The task tomorrow is to upset Macclesfield, whose manager, Sammy Mcliroy, ... 40 12 13 15 54 55 49 ... 42 12 12 18 59 68 48 ... 40 10 16 14 46 55 46 turned down the chance to succeed Sutton at Rochdale. Oldham 40 11 12 17 49 47 45 Luton 40 10 11 19 36 53 41 Wattord 40 6 17 17 45 61 35 "If we can keep them down to single figures in the first leg, BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Preinter division: Cebe 1 Kimarnock 1; Heart of we'll see what we can do in the

..... 31 8 5 18 25 49 29 Falkirk 32 6 5 21 29 52 23

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division:
Marine 4 Hyde 0 Postponed: Boston v
Guiseley First division: Bradford PA 0
Congletion 0. President's Cup: Semi-final:
Second leg: Barriber Bridge 2 Worksop 2
(Worksop vm 32 on agg)
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Exestiman 1 Solituli 2. RC Warwork 1
Redditch 3: Buclenghern 2 Bury 2. Dr
Martens Cup: Semi-final: Second leg:
Baltabury 1 Baldock 1.
ICS LEAGUE: Premier division: Yeading 0

Martens Cup: Semi-final: Second leg: Bellsbury I Beldock 1.

CIS LEAGUE: Premièr division: Yeading 0 Boreham Wood 3. Second division: Lestherhead 1 Brachnell 3. Certino Trophy: Semi-final: Banstead 2 Tilbury 1

LEAGUE: OF WALES; Enbw Valle 2 Alam 10/0 2: Holywell 1 Castmartina 2; Inter Cardini 22 Bitton Ferry 1. Postponed: Connah's Cualy v Bangor City; Comman v Berry AVON INSURANCE COMEINATION: First division: Bristol City 0 Tottenham 3; Bristol Rovers 0 Lution 0; Chelses 3 Isswich 0; Sorthampion 2 Oxford Utd 0; Swindon 1 Brighton 0, Wirmbledon 7. Waltord 3. Second division: Phymouth 8 Cheltenham 0; Torquay 1 Bournemeuth 4

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackgum 2 Eventon 1; Botton Wanderes 0 Oxform 2; Marchester Utd 4. West Bromwich 1; Notis: County 2. Newcastle Ltd 5; Sheffeld Ltd 1 Stoke 1. Second division: Astron Villa 1 Huddersfield 2. Blackgool 2. Barreley 1; Lebester 3. Meinchester City 0; Middlechrough 1 Port Villa 1; York 2 Prester 2. Third division: Certifiquor 0 Lincoln 2, Concested 4 Wigen 1; Rochdel 4 Shrheiburg 4; Scenborough 2 Cresterfeid 1; Scurthorpe 0 Chester 6; Stockport County 2 Bury 0; Wresham 3 Certiske 1.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division:
Swindon Supermenne 6 Kintbury 0.
HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premier division:
Cogenhoe 2 Stotfold 2
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brier/McGertzle Premier division: Cup:
Semi-linal: Haffield 3 Biggleswade 0
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Pirst division: Burscough 1 Trelford 1
NORTHERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Pirst division: Burscough 1 Trelford 1
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Football league: Premier division: Goole 2 Brigg 1.
UNILET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: Pirst division: Peacehaven and Telscombe 3 Ringmer 0: Stampo 3 Langney Sports 1.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Dartord 1 Cartlerbury 0; Faversham 0 Furness 8
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National league: Womoley 0 Arzenal 0
ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 1 Bari 2; Captan 1 Mian 2; Intermaconale 0
Sampdora 2; Juverius: 2 Uddiness' 1: Lazou 4
Fiorentine 0; Napoli 1 Tonno 0; Padona 1
Roma 2; Parms 2 Cremoness 0. Piacenza 0
Vicerza 1
GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayern Mumch 1 St.
Paull 1: Werder Bremen 2 Borussa
Moenchengladbach 0; Fortuna Dussaladori 2 Karsenstautem 1; Hamburg 0 Freiburg 0
FRENCH LEAGUE: Henburg 0 Freiburg 0
FRENCH LEAGUE: Finet: Atletico Martind 1
Spants Potierdam 1
Spants Potierdam 1
Spants Potierdam 1

Sperta Rotterdam I SPANISH CUP: Final: Atletico Madrid 1

PORTUGUESE CUP: Semi-finals: Porto 1 Sporting 1 (am): Benfica 2 Union Leina 0

Sporting 1 (sent): Benifica 2 Uniso Leina 0 (act)
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Crossia 4 Hungery 1 (at Osljek).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools North Tyneside Festival: Oxfrism 3, North Tyneside 1 Manchester 0, Newbastle 2: Luton 1, Chester 1-8 Free 1, Newbastle 26; Chester 1-6 Street 1 Newbastle 8 0; Newham 3: Bradford 0, Sundisfand 4, Bradford B 1, Kelloe 3, Rother Valley 2, Hartispool 1, North Tyneside 8 3, Rother

TODAY'S FIXTURES

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Bohemians v UCD (7.45); Dropheda v Dundalik (7.45); St Patrick's Alb v Galway (7.45); Athlone v Shothorere IR III Patrick's Alfi v Galway (7.45): Athlone v Shelbourne (8 0)
BASS RRSH CUP: Semi-final: Glentoran v Crugaders (at Windsor Park, Beltast, 7 30)
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Isle of Wight festival (from 10.15): Brierley Hill v Phymouth; Bishop Auckland v Luton; Bischoum v Scoopert; Bury v Domosten; Coversty v Shockport, West Tyne v Strockport, West Tyne v Strockport, West Tyne v Grovesham, E Berkstine v E Comwall, Isle of Wight v Geasehead; Havani v Peterborough, Leeds v US (Region 2). Maid-slone v Vale of Write Horse: Manchesser v S Tyneside: Reschools Palicetid, Roth-erham v Wellingtorough. English Schools-Palicetid Issaval (from 10 0): Northumberland v Kent, Hampshire v Durham,

FOOTBALL

Warrington v Hattax Second division and v Kent, Hampshire v Durham, Shrepahare v Surrey, Dorsal v Lincolnshire, N Yorkshire v Northanks tale of Man v

Somerset B. Other festivals; Jersey and North Tyneside RUGBY LEAGUE Kick-off 7.30 Stones Super League

Barrow v South Wates ... RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCH: Portypool v Bridgend (7.0) OTHER SPORT

JUDO: British championships (Berning-SPEEDWAY: World championship: British semi-linats (Oxford, 7 30) Premier League: Boile Vice v Exeter (7 30); Peterborough v Reading (7 30)

Valley B 0; Firri 2, Leeds 2; Rotherham 1 South Shields 4; Wrecham 2, Peterlee 2 Leeds B 1, Sunderland B 0 Isle of Wigh Festivet: Bishop Auckland 1 Plymouth 1 West Tyrie 2 East Comwell 0; Catleshead 2 Grakeshem 0; Southampton 2 Sheffeld 0 Bury 5 Valle of White Horse 2; Gospor 3 South Tyrieshia 2: Hurthampton 1 Shipherham Bury 5 Vale of Whate Horse 2; Gosport 2
South Tynesche 2: Huntingdon 1 Rotherham
3: Blackburn 3 Peterborough 1; kie of Wight
2 Coventry 7, Bristley Hill 3 Mactistone 2;
Manchester 0 United States (Region 2) 5;
East Berishin 3 Stockport 2; Leeds 0
Reading 0; Doncaster 2 Wellingbrough 0,
Havant 4 Luton 2 Pakeifield Festivel:
Northumberland 7 Surrey 1; Merseyside 1
Somerset 1, Durham 1 Stropphine 1;
Lincolnishine 1 Essex 5; West Midland 2
Nothrighamshire 2; Hampshire B 1 Kent B
1; Dorset B 0 Isle of Man 1; Kent 1 Northams
2; Bedfordshire 0 Corset 0; Cheshire 1
Hampshire 5: North Yorkshire 1 Cornwall 2.
Somerset B 2 Merseyside B 2: Shropphine B
0 Essex B 5 Representative masch:
England under-18 2 PA Youth 10 1.

GOLF

HALFORD HEWITT CUP (Royal Chrone Ports, Deal and St George's, Sandwich) First round: Royal Chrone Ports: Carlord 3 Felsted 2, Merchant Taylors' 3 Storyfunst 2, Windhester 3 Stowe 2, Marchester 4, Windhester 3 Stowe 2, Marchester 4, Highque 3% Curton 1%; Epoom 4 St Paul's 1; Adenham 4 Greshem's 1; Edinburgh Academy 3% Ringley 1%, Hemow 3 Taumion 2, Radley 4 King's Carriertory 1%; Chererhouse 3%, Rugby 1%, Hemow 3 Taumion 2, Radley 4 King Edward's Birminghem 1 SI George's: Dulwich 5 Westmirister 0; Glerahmond 3% Chigwell 1%; Bradfield 4 St Bees 1, Lancing 3 Eastbourne 2, Cranlegh 3%, Loretto 1%; Forest 3 Brighton 2; Reption 3% Ampleforth 1%

HOCKEY WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: Great Britain 2 Holland 5 (at Bisham Abbay)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL). Buttato 5 Ottawa 2, Detroit 5 Winnipeg 2, Florida 1 Tampa Bay 2, New Jersey 1 Philadelphins 5: NY Rangers 1 Washington 4; Putsurigh 2 NY Islanders 6, Colorado 7 Ansholm 3; Edmonton 2 Oellas 4, Los Angeles 6 San Jose 2. Pool B: Poland 3 Japan 3; Holland 0 Denmark 3; Switzerland 2 Belorussia 4,

RUGBY UNION COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Gioucester 16 Bath 12.

SUPER 12 TOURNAMENT: Walkato 17

SPEEDWAY PREMIER LEAGUE: Long Eaton 53 Scot-tish Monarchs 43: Hull 58 Coventry 37 POOLE: World championship: British semi-final: 1, K Tatum (London) 15pts, 2, P Hurry (London) 12; 3, S Wisson (Bradlord) 12: 4, N Collins (Belle Vue) 10, 5, R Morton (Reading) 10; 6, C Sponshower (Long Eaton) 10.

ANTIBES: French Open; Ment: First round:
J Power (Can) bi J White (Aus.) 9-1, 9-2, 3-9,
9-3, J Farscorne (Eng) bt T Gamer (Eng)
5-8, 9-4, 9-4, 9-7, P Gregory (Eng) bt P Steel
(N2) 7-9, 0-9, 9-8, 9-4, 9-3, M Calms (Eng)
bt C Van der Wath (SA) 9-5, 9-1, 9-0, C
Rowland (Aus.) bt S Khan (Fr) 9-7, 10-8, 9-3,
P Johnson (Eng) bt T Hands (Eng) 9-4, 9-5,
7-9, 9-3, A Burada (Egynt) bt M Heain
(Soot) 10-8, 3-9, 9-1, 9-0, 8 Mertin (Aus.) bt J
Nicolle (Eng), 10-8, 9-3, 9-1, 10, Forslund
(Swe) bt D Ryan (Ire) 10-8, 9-10, 10-8, 9-2,
20bar J Hhant (Pats) bt B Davis (Aus.) bt J
Nicolle (Eng), 10-8, 9-3, 9-1, 0-5 Forslund
(Swe) bt D Ryan (Ire) 10-8, 9-10, 10-8, 9-2,
20bar J Hhant (Pats) bt B Davis (Aus.) 3-9,
9-3, 9-0, 9-1, 12-4 Waih (Egypt) bt Zarak, J
Khan (Pats), 4-9, 9-5, 9-6, 9-3, 3-5 Meads
(Eng), bt F Usandicag (Arg), 9-2, 9-3, 7-9,
9-4; D Jenson (Aus.) bt C Montag (Fr), 9-8,
9-9, 9-5, 8-6 Fescy (Egypt) bt J Bonetal (Fr)
9-4, 9-4, 10-8, 8 Eyles (Aus.) bt G Ryding
(Can), 9-0, 9-5, 9-3

LISBON: Estoril Open: Second round: P. Haarhus (Holl) bit F Dewall (Bel) 6-3, 6-2, R. Fromberg (Just) bit J Burillo (Sp) 3-6, 7-6, 6-1, A Gaudenzi (N) bit R Carretoro (Sp) 4-6, 7-6, 7-6, T Carbonali (Sp) bit A Baratategui (Sp) 7-6, 1-6, 7-6; T Muster (Austre) bit C Moye (Sp) 6-4, 8-2. A Correig (Sp) bit J Novak (C2) 6-4, 8-2. HONG KONG: Men's tournament: Second round: D Princel (Gor) bit W Arthus: (Aus) 6-4, 6-4; S Metsucka (Japan) bit M Woodborde (Aus) 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, J Semerini, (Holl) bit K Carlson (Den) 6-3, 6-4; T Woodborge (Aus) bit T Johansson (Swe) 6-1, 6-2; R Krajoek (Holl) bit A Volkov (Huss) 7-6, 6-3; M Damm (C1) bit G Pozzi (II) 6-3, 6-2; P Sampras (LIS) bit P Railer (Aus) 6-3, 7-6, M Chang (LIS) bit H Dreekmann (Ge) 7-5, 6-3. NEW DELHI: Men's tournament: Second round: C Caretti (II) bit N Luttle (Swe) 7-6, 7-5, J Goldmard (Fi) bit J Wirmink, (Holl) 6-1, 6-3; B Black (Jim) bit D Sapstord (GB) 6-1, 6-1.

(SA) 6-1, 6-1.

AMELIA ISLAND: Women's tournament (US unless stated) Second round: S-Hack (Ger) bt A Dechaume-Ballere! (Fr) 6-1, 6-0; P Suere: (Arg) bt R Dragorni! (Rom) 7-5, 6-2; V Rueno-Pascual (So) bt L Ghirard-Rutoti (Fr) 6-2, 6-2, V Martinek (Ger) bt E Malkarova (Russ) 7-5, 5-7, 6-1, W Probst (Ger) bt L Neland (Let) 7-5, 6-2; T Jecmenica (Yug) bt K Maleeva (Bul) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; A Sanchez Vicaino (So) bt C Papadala (Gi) 6-0, 7-6, M McGrath bt K Rhaldi (Sunke) 1-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3, 34KARTA: Women's tournament: Second round: S Appetimans (Sei) bt J Nejedly (Can) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4, N killmuta "Lapan) bt A Gtossman (US) 6-4, 7-5, R Hrati Lapan) bt A Gtossman (US) 6-4, 7-5, R Hrati Lapan) bt M Wordel Witmeyer (US) 6-4, 1

consortium that had rescued Chorley from receivership. The potential of the UniBond League club was irresistible. Sutton's rebuilding has produced an early reward in the shape of an FA Umbro Trophy semi-final appearance, which sees Chorley travel to Moss Rose tomorrow to play Macclesfield Town, the Vauxhall Conference champions, before hosting the second leg at Victory Park next Saturday. Chorley's best Trophy run started in the first qualifying round in October with a 2-1 victory at Atherton LR and has taken in nine matches so far, including successes over Boston United, Boreham Wood and Gateshead, of the Conference, who were beaten 3-i in the quarter-finals. Injuries have troubled a small squad and the Trophy

Natural successor to Fry chooses engineering rather than sport





Cake at work in St John's College and at play in Cambridge University nets. He captains the side in his final year in the first class game. Photographs: André Camara

Cake walks away from cricket career

Then C. B. Fry left Oxford University in the 1890s, many doubted whether Oxbridge sport would see his like again. Fine intellects and sportsmen have been and gone since Fry went on to represent England at both cricket and football. but few have evoked as many memories of the great Corinthian all-rounder in his university days as Russell Cake.

When he arrived from KCS 1992 to study engineering at St John's college, Cake set about continuing a strong family Oxbridge sporting tradition; his father gained Blues in tennis and badminton at Oxford, his mother a Blue in badminton. Indeed, such was Cake's impact that, by the summer term of his first year, he had gained Blues in both hockey and cricket to add to a First in his end-of-year exam.

It was not, however, until a late call-up to the Combined Universities side to play the touring Australians, after fellow Light Blue John Crawley withdrew to attend his graduation ceremony, that Cake really announced his arrival as a top-class sportsman.

Facing a side that was already 2-0 up in the Test series against England and contained Shane Warne and

Mark Waugh. Cake proceeded to frustrate the increasingly irate Australians and made 108, his maiden first-class century. In so doing he became only the third Englishman that summer, after Graham Gooch and Graeme Hick, to make a century against the touring team. Such was the patience and maturity of the innings that Surrey offered him a contract for the 1993 summer vacation and Cake would add to the list of Cambridge players who have

graduated to Test cricket. However, a started First last year, a batch of cricket and hockey Blues and, three years on, the talented badminton, squash player and golfer is preparing for the start of what will probably be his last full season of first-class cricket at the age of 22. Whereas Fry. on graduation in 1895, went south with England to face South Africa, Cake, the Cambridge captain, will be heading north to Chester to start a career in management engineering with ICI, his sponsors through university.

Fry. a classics scholar at Wadham college, was considered the greatest all-round sportsman to play cricket for England. Holder of the world long-jump record, his footJohn Cassy profiles a young student cricketer who has decided that his considerable talent

should soon be lost to the first-class game

'County

cricket is

not great

for a full-

time job'

balling prowess also brought him an international cap and an FA Cup runners-up medal for Southampton. He won Blues in three sports — cricket. football and athletics — and would have won a fourth in

a job with ICI offers him a better career than the county circuit,

beyond which he doubts he would progress. "I didn't do nearly as well at Surrey as I had hoped." he said. "I was only averaging in

the twenties for Cambridge, I'd been in the mid-30s and last year was in the mid-40s. I think it was partly because the pitches at Fenner's are quite slow and the bounce is quite low, but the Oval is the opposite, up around your ears the whole time. I found it quite difficult to adapt to, but given another

year I'd have done much better. The terms of his sponsor-ship agreement with ICI would not allow him the second summer that was on offer at the Oval and, when he As one used to excelling in the year-round financial sec- different. As it is, he hopes to everything he does. Cake says urity of the job with the big corporation came

out ahead. Perhaps I was a bit harsh to give myself just one summer, but I think it would have taken me a couple of years to break into the first team. If I'd have been good enough to play a

the second team whereas, at lot of first-team stuff and get towards the England team. I'd have really liked to have kept going, but I'm not sure I would have made it.

There's not a great deal of glamour or achievement playing county cricket six days a week for five or six months a year and you have to be fanatically keen to enjoy it. the rest of the year scratching around, stacking shelves in supermarkets or playing club cricket abroad. It's not great for a full-time job," he says.

What's more, you are left for

Had the English domestic game been more like the Australian, where fewer games are played and a small nucleus of full-time professionals are supplemented by other first-class players who hold down full-time jobs, he says combine his new job with some Minor Counties and MCC cricket.

According to Derek Randall, the new coach at Cambridge, ICI's gain will be county cricket's loss. "It's a great pity Russell's not going to have a crack at playing cricket professionally." he said. He's a very capable player and also an ideal captain with a great temperament and he's always thinking about others. But then, with someone with as much talent as he has, he always has the choice to do something at a

Cambridge open their firstclass season against Glamorgan at Fenner's next Wednesday and Cake and the dub's committee are endeavouring to improve the level of

high level."

Cambridge team offers an aspiring young player. "We want to get more good young players coming in by finding out which admissions rutors aren't against sport so that. when we get 17-year-olds writing to the club asking which

college to apply to, we can give them some guidance," Cake "We've also got a new groundsman who has relaid Derek Randall is proving to be a great success. His enthusiasm has really got people going and he is very popular." One of Cake's main hopes is that a system can be devised whereby players who demon-

strate talent at an early level can take it through to the international stage. There are a lot of former England Under-19 captains who have played well against the likes of Chanderpaul and Pollock. who are now playing Test cricket for other countries, while our guys are only playing county seconds. Cambridge is a very good

alternative environment for young players to develop because they play against firstchoice teams and it is not quite the same humdrum atmosphere of every day county second-team cricket.

Bringing the house down

The Story of the Comedian Harmonists. Radio 4, 9.30pm

Five singers and a pianist, all German, literally brought the house Five singers and a plants, an creman, merony mought the house down in Leipzig. So loud and persistent were the theatre audiences cheers and stamping that hits of the ceiling rained down on the from stalls. The Comedian Harmonists were superstars in 1938, Europe until Goebbels's edict for the enforced co-ordination of musical life and it impossible that the three less in the ensemble of the control of the con und Coepoers's cold for the three Jews in the ensemble should made it imperative mat the inree Jews in the ensemble should emigrate to Austria. There, they became the nucleus of a new group, the Cornedy Harmonists. In Australia, the young Barry Fluoribries was one of their vast army of admirers. "They were the voice of what Germany might have been but for the Terror," he says in Yolanda Schwager's fine tribute to the fabulous entertainers.

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Radio 2, 10.00pm.

The Birmingham Repertory i neatre. Kauto 2, thought.

Here is the two-hour history of a cradle, but not the sort in which babies were rocked to sleep. Birmingham Repertory Theatre had the opposite effect; it kept audiences as alert as guardsmen on sentry go. The theatre is where many celebrated actors, designers and directors either had their beginnings or fine-tuned their skill. Its modern-dress either had their beginnings or fine-tuned their skill. Its modern-dress Shakespeare productions were pioneering landmarks in fleatre shakespeare productions were pioneering landmarks in fleatre history. So was the courageous staging of exhausting Shaw plays such as Back to Methuselah. Inevitably, Alan Titchmarsh's tribute to "Birmingham Reo" has much to say about its creator, Barry Jackson. "Birmingham Rep" has much to say about its creator, Barry lackson, a theatrical legend in his own lifetime.

RADIO ONE

PM Stereo 4.00am Cive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Kevin Greening 12.00 Usa l'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat, and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbel 4.60 Dave Pearce, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Drive-In and at 6.30 The Mits 7.00 Essential Selection 10.00 John Peel 1.00am Radio 1 Rap Show

RADIO 2

7.30 Waste Up to Wogan 3.30 Net Debbe Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 For Love Not Money 1461 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 8.45 Bogarde on Film: Visconti and Venice (6.7) 9.00 Listen to the Band 10.00 The

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Moming Reports 6.00 The Breaklast Programme, incl 6.55, 7.56 Breaklast Programme, incl 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Daria Madill, incl Video Review. Euronews and et 11.00 Science News 12.00 Middey with Mar, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale Mationament incl at 8.45 Entertainment. Entertainment News 4,00 John Inverdale Nationwide, incl. at 5,45 Entertainment News 7,20 Finday Sport: Rugby League — Warrington v Halifar: Golf: five reports from Augusta, Georgia 9,35 Stop Press 10,05 Entertainment Superhighway 11,00 Night Edina, Incl. at 11,15 The Financial World Tonight 12,05 am After Hours 2,05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO 6.00am Sandy Wan 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 Scott Chisholm 7.00 Sean Bolger 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00-8.00am Mike Dickin

All times in BST. 5.00am Newsdesk 5.30 Europe Today 5.45 Folk Rouses 6.00 News 6.30 Europe Today 6.45 Words and Music 6.50 Inside's Guide 7,00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Busis, World 8,00 News 8,15 Off the Sheft 8,30° UPO's Fact or Fiction? 9,40° News in German - 9,15 Music Review 9,45 Soundbyle 10,00 News 10,05 Business 10,15 Focus on Faith 10,45 Sport 11,00 10.15 POLS OF Paul 10-AS Spot 11-US News 11-30 BBC English 11-45 Of the Shell12-00 News 12-30pm Mendien 1.00 News in Germein 1.15 Bissen Tolke 1.30 Science in Action 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Meteration 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15-BBC English
4.30 News in German 5.00: Europe
Today 5.30 Business 5.45 Britain Todey
6.00 News 6.10 World Today 6.25
Spotlight 6.30 News in German 7.00
News 9.00 News 9.01 Outlook 9.25
Words of Fath 9.30 Multitrack 10.00
News 10.05 Business 10.15 Entain
Today 10.30 People and Politics 11.00
News 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport
12.00 News 12.10 Spotlight 12.15 The
Insider's Guide 12.25 Book Choice
12.30 Multitrack 1.00 News 1.30 Seven
Days 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 News 2.30
Outlook 2.55 Words of Faith 3.00 News
3.30 Meridian 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 3.30 Meridian 4.00 News, 4.15 Sport 4.30 Vintage Chart

CLASSIC FM

A.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Sucannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jame Crick 6.00 Newsnight 8.30 Showcase Sonata 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mapon 1.00 Robert Booth

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00sm Russ 'n' Jone 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graftam Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00mm Howard Pearce

6.00am On Air. Presented by Andrew McGregor. Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in 8 flat. Op 7 No 6); Harty (The Children of Lir); Lawes (Royall Consort Suite No 9 in F); Glazunov ronation Anthem No 3: The King shall rejoice); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto

in Emmort 9.00 Morning Collection.
Presented by Catriona Young.
Chopin (Polonalse-Fantalsie. Op 61); Haydn (String Quartet in D minor, Op 76 No 2,

Fifths); Ravel (Pavane pour une infante défunte); Bruch (Concerto in E minor for clarinet and viola) 10.00 Musical Encounters. With Chris Wines: Artist of the Chris Wines: Artist of the Week: Boris Berezovsky, piano. Ravel (La Valse): 10.12 Albeniz, arr Leyenda (Asturias); Albeniz, arr Williams (Sevilla); Mozart (Moto de gibia, La Nozze di Figaro); Schubert (Symphony No 8 in 8 minor, unfinished); Henze (Das Blumentest, Stimmen); Liszt (Etudes d'exécution transcendante

Nos 10-12); Berg (Violin Concerto)
12.00 Composer of the Weels
Muffat. Presented by David
McGuinness. Includes,
Concerto Grosso No 3 in F, Convalescentia; Toccata No. 1 in D minor, Apparatus musico-organistus; Passacaglia in G minor; Sonata No 5 in G, Armonico

d'exécution transcendante

solitata No S in G, Ambridge tribute 1.00pm Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Stravinsky Plus. Catherine King, mezzo; Wayne Marshall, ptano, Music

by Igor Stravinsky and his sor Souteima 2.00 Rose Consort of Viols. Viol.

fantasias by Thomas Tallis. William Byrd, Orlando Gibbons, Thomas Tomkins and Henry Purcell Performances by the violinist Manoug Pankian, Includes Busoni (Violin Concerto in D): Dvořák (Piano Trio No 4 m E minor. Dumky); Mediner (Violin Sonata No 1 in B

minor) 5.00 The Music Machine, With Julian Gregory
5.15 in Tune. Live from the Festival Hall in London.

. . .

Including Haydn (Plano Tho in 7.00 The Mask of Orpheus. Live from the Festival Hali. BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis and the BBC Singers perform Harrison Birtwistle's and librettist Peter Znovieff's version of the Greek legend of Orpheus in the Underworld; 8,15 Stephe Prustin considers aspects of Birtwistle and myth; 8,35 Part 2; 9,30 Between Heaven and Hell. Michael Kustow explores solutions to fear and mistrust

in Jerusalem; 9.55 Part 3 Martin Roscoe, piano performs Mozart (Fantasia in partorns who are frantasian in 0 minor): Beethoven (Sonata in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 2. Moonlight): Schumann (Nachstücke: Op 23); Chopin (Fantasy in F minor, Op 49)

(f)
12.00-1_00arm Composer of the Weelc Schubert. Presented by Paul Guinery. Includes, Epistel: An Herm Josef Spaun, D 749 (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Pick of the Week Lesie

Forbes presents extracts from a week's BBC radio and

a week's BBC redio and television

8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a topical debate in Hornby, near Lancaster, with Kemlesh Bahl, chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission; and MPs, Yony Benn; Norman Larnott and Life temes.

Lamont; and Lic Lynne 8.50 Points of Departure. The BBC's Southern Africa

a torch-bearer for netional renewal (4/8) (r)

9.15 Letter from America, by

correspondent, George Alagiah, talks about how Nalson Mandela has become

Spring tonic acquires talent for surprise Disregarding Durham, for

ON SEPTEMBER II last year. cricket followers spent the afternoon expecting the resolution of a mighty scrap for the county championship. Warwickshire's players paced their dressing-room, the champagne on ice, but there it had to stay after Middlesex conjured a one-run victory over Leicestershire to keep the contest alive.

At the time, it seemed enough that a memorable summer was to have a suitable autumn, the title being decided in the final round of games. But there was an added significance to the remarkable Middlesex win, one revealed only now by the publication of the 1996 Wisden Almanack. With that victory, Middlesex secured the distinction of being the most successful county in postwar cricket. It was a desperately near thing. Middlesex, it transpires, have won 434 of the 1,221 championship fixtures since 1946; their neighbours

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 34

NECROMIMESIS (c) A morbid mental state in which the sufferer believes himself to be dead. Not as common as the reverse condition, in which the sufferers believe

(b) Slothful, shirking work or duty, from the Latin word. "Well, Grandfather, when I leave school I plan to take a university course while

MURCID

working part-time. In the medium-term, of course, I aspire to full-time **APORIA** (c) Patently insincere professions, eg by a public speaker, of an inability to know how to begin, what to say, etc. This is a very classy word, and should be used only in conversation with professors of classics or philosophy.

Everyone else will assume you are referring to an unpleasant form of skin

MATRIX

(a) Like structure and parameter, a word whose constant transmigration tween the physical and the social sciences has led to all kinds of misuse The primary meaning of matrix is a womb or mold, in which something is engendered - the derivation is from the Latin word for mother. A secondary meaning, in mathematics, is a square or rectangular array of

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE [... Be7! 2 Oxh8 Bh4 mate

the latecomers are bottom on all criteria. Nottinghamshire surprisingly occupy last place. having won only 256 games. A similar study of Test match results during the post-

war half-century predictably shows West Indies ahead. with 120 wins from 298 Tests, followed by Australia and England. But, when the last ten years alone are dissected, England drop to sixth place, having won only 19 of their 105 Tests in the decade. Surrey have won 433. York-Wisden always has been a shire are third. Essex fourth.

springtime tonic, perennially reminding us that there is far more in cricket that is good and worthy than the doom-tellers would have us believe. but under the editorship of Matthew Engel it has developed a new talent, the ability to surprise. Engel's lateral thinking has elevated the book to new heights and the 50-year tables are just the pick of this year's offerings in that

category. There are 1,440 pages, 16 more than last year, yet the principal dilemma is still, apparently, what to leave out. Such has been the pace of the game's expansion, and the raising of its profile, that the issues covered in the good book are annually more global and, in their own way, more familiar. This does not, however, suggest that they are all

cosy chatter. The risks presented to the game by betting, and the subsequent potential for bribery, are covered in a special unusual betting patterns

article by David Hopps and in Engel's habitually excellent Notes by the Editor. Here, he is unambiguous in his criticism of the retired Pakistani judge who dismissed any case against Salim Malik without hearing the prosecution evidence. He also sounds a warning that ought not to go unheeded by those at the helm

"Cricket is a splendidly designed game for betting," Engel writes. "Its mixture of the individual and the general gives an unparalleled range of



De Silva: hero of final

opportunities for enthusiasts to back their judgment, But, as the northern saying ought to go, where there's brass, there's muck.

"In Britain, where betting is legal and bookmakers are inclined to cowardice rather than corruption, the problem appears to be controllable; any ford University Press, £25),

would be spotted at once, and publicly exposed. In the subterranean world of subcontinental betting, too illegal to be subject to the public gaze, too narrowly-based to form a mature market, the same checks do not apply. The ICC Code of Conduct belatedly lays down the law and bans players from betting: the sound of stable doors slamming is heard across the

Harold Larwood and Bob Wyatt, who knew some turbulent times in their careers, are the subject of a tribute by David Frith and Pat Murphy interviews a range of subjects under the heading, "Has the Game got worse?" There is a diverting section about cricket and pubs, interlinked subjects if ever there were two, and of the five Cricketers of the Year, selected last September, the most prescient was the subsequent hero of the World Cup final, Aravinda de Silva.

The recently-published World Cricketers, a biographical dictionary, was written as a labour of love by Christopher Martin-Jenkins. It is a gem of a reference book, stretching to 820 pages and detailing statistics and brief but anecdotal biographics of everyone who has played Test cricket, and quite a few more.

☐ Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 1996 (John Wisden, £24.50). ☐ World Cricketers, by Christopher Martin-Jenkins [Ox-

West Indies turn to Marshall

MALCOLM MARSHALL has emerged as the leading candidate to take over as West Indies coach after the departure of Andy Roberts. Mar-shall, 38, who retired from first-class cricket last month after a 19-year career in which he took 378 Test wickets. has been approached by the West Indies Board of Control with an offer to work alongside Clive Lloyd the team

manager.

Marshall, who is starting his first full season of a threeyear contract as coach of his former county. Hampshire, this year, also coaches in South Africa with Natal. He believes that, if he does accept the West Indies offer, it will not cut across his duties in England, but he would have to give up his job in Durban.

Colin Stuart, 22, from Guyana, has been chosen to replace Curtly Ambrose in the West Indies team for a limited-overs international against the world champions, Sri Lanka, in Trinidad tomorrow. Ambrose has a hamstring

Nigel Briers, the Leicestershire opener, could miss the first two months of the season after undergoing knee surgery. Briers, who stepped down as captain last year. aggravated a long-standing knee problem during the club's tour to South Africa.

6.30 Going Places. With David Stafford

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today inc 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Tips from Women Gardeners 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island
Diacs. Cricket umpire Dicke

Dissis. Critices unique bytes Bird talks to Sue Lawley (1) 9.45 African Harvest. Presented by Alian Little (3/4) 10.00-10.30 News, Beyond Reasonable Doubt (FM Reasonable Doubt (FM only). A Second Chance. (4/6) 10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only) 10.15 This Sceptrd Isle (LW only) 10.30 Woman's Hour 11.30 The Natural History

Programme 12.00 News; You and Yours. With Chris Choi

12.25pm The Food Programme.
How does the future look for Britain's hop industry? 12.55 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55

1.40 The Archers (f) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Classic Serial.
All Trangs Betray Thee by
Gwyn Thomas. Wan lan
Hughes, Patrick Brennan and
Monon Edwards. Directed by
Alison Hindell (3/3) (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope,
Tim Marlow sees Martin
Stemman's new play Sume

Tim Marlow sees Martin Sherman's new play Some Surary Day and views a "mad art" exhibition in Sheffield 4.45 Short Story: Crickets by Robert Olen Butler Read by Combit Vis. (r.)

David Yip (r) 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weath 6.00 Six O'Clock News

9.15 Leaser from Performan by Alistair Cooke 9.30 Kalekdacope Feature, See Choice (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Torright, With Robin Lusting 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Stalin's Nose. Alistak McGowan reads Hory MacLean's story(10/10) Mammon. A satincal sketch 11.00 Ma

show about the activities of the multinational Mammon Corporation, With Nickolas Grace, Jonathan Aris, Halen Baxendale, Julian Dutton and Peter Yapp (2/3) 11.25 Tea Junction, With Patrick

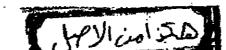
Hannan and guests

11.45 Fluff by Mary Planagen. Read by Maggie Steed (r)

12.00 News 12.27am Weather

12.30 The Late Book: Devil in a fig. Silve Dress, by Welter Mosley (10/10) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-82.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089.Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson



This allegedly sporty vehicle is a non-starter Reaching deep into that magic bottomless pot of critical enthusiasm smarms his hair like a copper, and enthusiasm I keep at my desk (cook, little pot, cook), I will labelled: "Move along now please. say this about the new ITV drama there's nothing to see." series Ellington: that it really, er,

The production notes tell us that when looking for a vehicle for Chris Ellison (clever how they kept the essentials of his name, don't you think?), he laid claim to two enthusiasms: art and sport. So at least we were spared Ellington: Art Promoter. "Your boy Hirst," says a cheaply-lit actor you've never seen before. "He won't do as he's told. He likes to do things his own way." Ellington ripostes. "He's the best young artist we've seen for years, and he's going right to the top." Hirst grabs Ellington's arm. "Thanks for having faith in me, Mr Ellington." "If you want to thank me," speeds I'll you want to thank me," speeds I'll you want to thank me," snarls Ellington, pointing up the steps of the Tate

Gallery. "Thank me in there." The script was terrible, nobody was good-looking, and hilariously,

6.00am Open University: Learning for Alt (7707270) 6.25 Bables (7726305) 6.50

Windows on the Mind (8700947)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4887270)

7.30 Christopher Crocodile (r) [7430638]

7.35 Postman Pat (r) (9613473) 7.50 Peter Pan and the Pirates (r) (Cee(ax) (s) (4867299) 8.15 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Cee(ax) (7905893) 8.35 The Legend of Prince Valiant (r) (Cee(ax) (1905893) 8.35 The Legend of Prince Valiant (r) (1905893) 8.35 The Legend (r) (1905893) 8.35 The Legen

(Ceefax) (s) (8150837) 9.05 Mighty Max

(s) (7970473) 9.25 F.O.T. (s) (7320893)

(S) (1970413) 9.23 F.O.1. (S) (102053) 10.00 Playdays (S) (6951631) 10.25 Star Trek (r) (4263928) 10.50 The Tick (r) (1124980) 11.10 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) (r) (8892725)

12.00 Great Crimes and Trials of the 20th Century (38270) 12.30pm Working Lunch (66541) 1.00 Postman Pat (r)

1.15 The Royal Institution Christmas

2.20 FILM: The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson (1990) with André Braugher

3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather (2081744)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (560) 4.30 Ready,

5.30 The Wartime Kitchen and Garden.

6.00 Shooting Stars. Vio Regues and Box

6.30 The Champions (Cestary is 1,886857)

7.20 Watch Out. Simon King presents A loids

cake (3.8) (r) (Ceetax - 116)

show (r) (Ceetax) (s) (909)

Peerce (53-1473)

Lectures (5/5) (r) (s) (437299; **2.15 Open View** (s) (73721763)

and Ruby Dee. Rea-Me military courtroom drama Directed by Larry

Steady, Cook 'si (7-44) 5.00 Esther (5)

Includes a chocolate outdoing with certail as a sweetener and a caroboard wedoing

Mortimer host the space belowing also

John Martyn in concert (7,30pm)

country music performers from ireizna,

Scotland and North America including

reports on this year's British Reliy

celebrates 150 years of the National Chrysanthemum Society. Plus a briefly

look at daffodils (Ceefax) (s. (894299)

9.15 Golf - the US Masters 1996. We

coverage from Georgia (5346744)

11.15 Fantasy Football League (s) (276015)

12.35 FILM: A Short Film About Killing

aken from a series of films using the Ten

in tribute to director Krzysztof Kieslowski.

In Polish with English subtitles (4157348)

11.45 This Life (r) (Ceetax; (s) (959312)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceelax) (197725)

Ends at 2.00am

7.30 The Transatiantic Sessions. Folk 27d

8.00 Top Gear Motorsport. Tony Mason

Championships (Cestax) (s) (9299)

8.30 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton

John Martyn (Ceelax) (473)

the production team have decided that the way to convince us that whose whole acting style might be this is the Real World of Sports is to employ real-life sportsmen each week to wave "Hi, Ellington!" across a bar. Last night the lucky chump was Ian Botham, and of course the ploy backfired, simply reinforcing how bogus and batheric the whole thing is. And talking of bathos, how about Ellington's tough refusal to succumb to laugh-

ably faint persuasion from a fe-

male rival sports promoter with fat

knees? "Listen," he barked. "I'm on

my own. I'm not interested in

mergers, or partnerships...or anything like that!" Great lines of

the world, eh?

ignals of a more sophisticated sort were to be found in Wildlife on One (BBC), not Scotland), in which families of Caribbean dolphins clicked and buzzed at each other, observed by a

bouncy boatload of female Ameri-

REVIEW

Truss



can marine biologists. Normally I am rather suspicious of soundtracks in natural history programmes: I assume the noises have been added later in the studio by a man with a tray of gravel and a selection of whistles. But in order to get the requisite camphony for some of the great underwater setpieces last night, you would need a room full of blokes variously waving geiger counters, blowing

violently through haircombs, scratching balloons down blackboards, blowing bubbles through a bowl of water, and making "wah! wah!" sounds like a faraway baby. (If this scene ever took place, incidentally. I would very much like to see it.)

Living next door to dolphins must be hell. The din is appalling. If an aquatic creature is ever discovered with a broom-handleshaped protuberance on its right fin, we will guess at once the evolutionary logic. Dolphins use sound as a weapon: they stun prey with it. they yell at each other, and they also use it for parental reprimand. regardless of the neighbours. In an extraordinary sequence last night, a little spotted dolphin was told off for messing about. Sternly, his mother escorted him to the sea floor and then sort-of drilled him with sound. It looked like a short, sharp shock. When she had finished, they swam back to the

flippers with him to show there were no hard feelings. To observe and understand such gestures, the lemale researchers have watched the dolphins for about ten years. It is the best job anybody has got in the whole wide world.

course, the trouble with cross-species communication is that there is so much unspoken; so much room for misunderstanding. For example, do dolphins really enjoy playing pass-the-seaweed with humans, or do they just hesitate to suggest Monopoly? Similarly, when aliens buzz us from outer space, perhaps they don't wish to bypass the secrecy of governments and reach the common people. Perhaps they just want to test our governments. to see whether we can keep a secret. In which case, apparently, they are rarely disappointed. Secrets of the Paranormal

editorial back-up to fanatics, and allows them to make a case. Last night's first instalment was a strong one, in which Jenny Randles conducted research into UFO sightings in a variety of ways, but mainly sorted through files as the Public Record Office. Rather perversely, these paper-work interludes (flip, flip, flip) were the most fascinating, since unlike footage of "aliens" — such stuff is rarely shown on television.

Randles interviewed ordinary people who'd had close encounters, and who claimed they'd been visited by bowler-hatted heavies from the Ministry of Defence. Do such heavies exist, however? An unofficial spokesman said no, they must be impostors. It was a creepy suggestion worthy of The X Files. Perhaps the men in the bowler hats are aliens, too! All together now: Bippedy-boppety-bippedyboppery hip bip hip hip . . .

E. BBOIL

6.00am Business Breakfast (32270) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (50831) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax)

no, what was it? Start again. Yes,

Ellington is truly, er, come on.

think woman. Sorry. No it's gone.

then! A new drama about a sports

promoter, starring Detective In-spector Burnside from The Bill

And it's indescribably dull! This is

the harm that comes from people

innocently watching pilots, you see. Eighteen months ago. Elling-

ton was piloted, and ten million

people tuned in. They should not

have done that. Sitting at home

laughing and jeering (Right rub-

bish, this!"), those ten million sent

the wrong signals to Network

Centre, and now we have seven

cheap-looking episodes about an

unconvincing square-faced Lon-doner in a suit, who looks like a

Great news for Thursday nights,

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (7106522) 9.45 Kilroy. Topical discussion (s) (1266015) 10.30 Good Morning (20367)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6969725) 12.05pm Room for Improvement (s) (8747015) 12.35 Going for Gold with Henry Kelly (s)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (60218) 1.30 Regional News and weather (94530270) 1.40 Neigh-bours (Ceelax) (s) (44649034)

2.00 Moon Over Miami (Ceeiax) (s) (5196218) 2.50 Today's Gourmet

3.15 Secret Life of Toys (8896744) 3.30 Playdays (r) (s) (1788928) 3.50 Monster Cate (s) (8996763) 4.05 Casper Classics (r) (s) (7407544) 4.10 Little Mouse on the Prairie (Ceelax) (s) (2978015) 4.35 The Mask (Ceelax) (s) (9577725) 5.00 Newsround (Ceetax) (1080676) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (344116) 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines (947) 7.00 Wipeout. Three contestants compete for the star prize of a holiday (2909) WALES:

7.30 CHOICE Tomorrow's World: The Prince of Wales Award for Innovation (Ceelax) (s) (831)

8.00 Hi-De-Hi! The Pay-Off. Classic comedy set in a holiday camp during the 1950s. With Simon Callow and Su Pollard and Ruth Madoc (r) (Ceefax) (1657)

8.30 A Question of Sport. David Coleman lests the sporting inowledge of Bill Besumont and ten Botham and their celebrity guests, Dominic Cork, David Seaman, Tim Henman and Karen Dixon (Ceefax) (s) (1544)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceelax), regional news and weather (4102)

9.30 CHOICE 999. Michael Buerk presents more extraordinary, true tales or heroic rescues (Ceetax) (s) (99909) N.L. 9.30 PK Tonight 10.20 999 11.20 Golf 12.20-1.40 FILM Hannie Caulder

10.30 Golf - the US Masters 1996. Coverage from Augusta, Georgia (s) (86251) NB: Due to live golf coverage, subsequ programmes may be disrupted

11.30 FILM: Hannie Caulder (1971) with Raque! Welch, Robert Culp and Emest Borgnine A woman begs a bounty hunter to teach her to how shoot, so that she can take revenge on the men who raped her and killed her husband. Directed by Burt Kennedy (593893)

12.50 FILM: The Empty Beach (1985)
Australian film noir, or Marlowe Down
Under, starring Bryan Brown A private
eye is hired to find a crooked hueinessman who has disappeared Directed by Chris Thomson (Ceefax) (4063023) 2.20am Weather (5836232)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode" numbers, which tisting are viced intercess trainings in the safety you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ "handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ ("), Pluscode (") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Germstar Development Ltd.

CHOICE

Tomorrow's World: The Prince of Wales Award for Innovation BBC1,7_3Qpm

Trying to redeem its lousy image, Yorkshire Water has jointly developed a high-tech valve which will enable water companies to spot leaks and monitor supplies. But does the Wizkey deserve an award from the Prince of Wales any more than Lotus's new Elise, an expensive performance car which has little to do with the needs of ordinary motorists? The sensible money might be on a device which sprays burglars, and their booty, with a liquid detectable under ultra-violet light. All three are up for a gong, along with three other innovations whose commercial success is already proven — an "intelligent" artificial leg, a means of protecting cotton crops without using artificial chemicals and something called ICE, which prevents the district of the control of the co pirating of music. HRH is on hand to announce and congratulate the winners.

Just when you are starting to feel uneasy about enjoying other people's mishaps from the comfort of your armchair, the programme stilles your doubts by moving into its other mode as a purveyor of propaganda for first aid. This is the fifth series of 999, which suggests that the public appenie for near-death experiences is still far from sated. Happily, tragedy is always averted at the last minute, usually thanks to the courage and expensive of the rescuery whether (as here) of a girl sailor trapped under her boat or of cavers out off by a rouldall. In tonight's third emergency, however, the hero is the victim. A tree surgeon who slices an artery with a fear-some stump-cutting machine remembers a first aid tip from his childhood and does the right thing in the nick of time.

Eurotrash Channel 4. H.Pipm

The excuse for Eurotrasia, which returns for a new season, is that while fully living up to trame it meter sake to he taken periodals This is rubbish, and often squalid rubbish, but with its tongue planted firmly in its cheek. Patential offence is defused in selfparody and the presenters set the tone, Jean Paul Gaultier und Antoine de Caunes have the distinction of being the best caricature Frenchmen since Maurice Chevalier. Nobody could be more qualified to preside over items which in programme one include rabbit showiumping, a guide to expensive shopping from the supermodel. Carla Bruni. and music from the gay boy band. 4 Guyz. A new regular spot features Ralf and Chris from Berlin, old friends of the show, as mying reporters, and there is the obligatory porn star. Tabatha Cash.

Channel 4. !!.40pm

Pronounced "flavour". Flava claims a television first in the presentation of contemporary black music by offering exposure for performers that the conventional outlers either overlook or choose to ignore. The idea is to present the best of the young rap, ragga and jungle performers "raw, undiluted and raw uncensored". This may suggest provocative material rightly positioned in a late-evening slot. If the pilot for the show is an accurate guide, however, the emphasis is more on healthy inhibition than unhealthy subversion. The artists are drawn from both sides of the Atlantic and appear mainly on videos where a thin line divides the imaginative from the pretentious. The line-up for tonight includes Mark Morrison. Patra and Craig Mac. Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (2252396)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (71145.41; 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6938980)

10.00 Batman — the Animated Series (5) (6955657) 10.25 Carloon (1) (1640831) 10.35 FILM: A Son's Promise (1990) with Rick Schroder Made for TV weepie based on the true story Directed by John Forty (s) (44341473)

12.20pm HTV News (Teletext) (6965909) 12.30 News and weather (Teleleid) (3884270) 12.55 Murder, She Wrote (s) (7843367) 2.00

Home and Away (Teleter) (5) (54738096) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (6) (54740831) 2.50 The Good Health Guide (Teletext) (4086305)

3.20 News (Telelext) (7841560) 3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (7840831)

3.30 Zzzap! (i) (8977367) 3.45 The Wind in the Willows (r) (Telefext) (s) (483218) 4.15 Garfield and Friends (5702116) 4.25 The Geeks (Teleter) (2078034) 4.55 Hang On (\$) (4030928)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (6925742) 5.40 News and weather (Telatez) (572947)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teleled) (s) 1868611: 5.25 HTV News (Teletext) (118102)

6.45 Sportsweek (Teletexh (315724) 7.09 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right (Teletext) (St (6355)

7.30 Coronation Street. Steve is suspicious about Alec's return (Teletekh (299)

8.00 The Bill. Sun Hill nosts a part; for police pensioners and widows (Teletect) (6705)

8.30 The Upper Hand. When Laura gers carried away at a casino. Caroline's quick thinking saves the riight in (Teletext) is)



King's Fusiliers in the sun (9.00pm)

9.00 Soldier, Soldier. Perrun of the ford series. The King's Fusiliers are in New Zealand, where triendly rivalry with the locals threatens to get out of hand (r) (Teletarti (s. (7541))

10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (33725).

10.30 HTV West News (Teletext) (754657) 10.40 Entertaining Mr Wedlock. Fred Wedlock goes behind the scenes at a Pontin's holiday camp (119096)

11.10 FILM: The Fall of the House of Usher (1960, b.w) with Vincent Price, Mark Camon and Myma Fahey Honor based on the Edgar Allen Poe classic, Directed by Roger Corman (567763) 12.30 Hotel Babylon (s) (7754058) 1.10 The

Good Sex Guide . . . Late (s) (8333058) 2.10 FILM: How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (1967) Musica with Robert Morse and Michele Lee. Directed by David Swift (52612771) 4.20 Football Extra (r) (5805226)

5.00 On the Live Side (58226) 5.30 Morning News (26771)

As HTV WEST except: 2.50pm-3.20 Wish You Were Here...?

6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (270454)

10.40 Friday Live (397638) 11.40 Hunter (95-1367)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.55 Coronation Street (3809589) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (79225725)

1.55 Home and Away (68325980) 2.25 High Road (54731183) 2.55-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (2769760)

5.10 Home and Away (6925742) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (78386) 10.30 Westcountry News (745909) 10.45 Film: Young Einstein (28222034)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (3809589)

1.25 Chain Letters (79225725) 1.55 A Country Practice (44620909) 5.10 Shortland Street (6925742)

5.40-6.00 ITN Early Evening News; Weekend Weather (57%47) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (270454)

10.40 Film: Cherry 2000 (15730725) 1.20 The Good Sex Guide ... Late

2.20 The Chart Show (7267394)

3.15 Dear Nick (9025874) 4.10 Jobfinder (8552481)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except 12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (0809689) 1.55 A Country Practice :44620909

5.20 Asian Eye (1025053)

5.10 Home and Away (6)26742: 5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weekend

6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight 783861 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (33725) 10.40 Only a Game! (1190%)

11.10 Good Advice (483103) 11 35 War of the Worlds (423919) 5.00am Freescreen (55236)

Starts: 6.30 Fifteen to One (23299) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (43541) 9.00 Saved by the Bell: The College Years (43102) 9.30 New Gamesmaster (8498473) 9.55 California Dreams (6795270) 10.20 Mork and Mindy 16957015) 10.50 The Adventures of Tintin (1140928) 11.15 The Pink Panther (5668725) 11.40 Dog City (5510803) 12.00 Sesame Street (70744) 1.00pm Slot Meithrin (53928) How Green Was My Valley (50376299) 4.00
Jimmy's (928) 4.30 My Generation: The
Small Faces (812) 5.00 Pump: Noc Noc
(8183) 5.30 Fifteen to One (164) 6.00 Newyddion (478183) 6.15 Heno (929218) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (390251) 7.25 Jiw! Jiw! (558164) 8.00 Dei a Tom: Dewi a Tom (4367) Gerdd O (5183) 10.00 Brookside (31367) 10.30 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (191541) 11.10 Eurotrash (100812) 11.40 Flava (777305) 12.15am T.F.I. Friday (597139) 1.15 Beavis and Butt-Head (67481) 1.45 Film: Comic Book Confidential (204110)

6.30am Fifteen to One (r) (Telerext) (s)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (43541)

9.00 Saved by the Bell(r) (43102) 9.30 New Gamesmaster (r) (8498473) 9.55 California Dreams (r) (6795270) 10.20 Canomia Dreams (r) (6/95/20) 10.20
Mork and Mindy (r) (695/7015) 10.50
Tintin (r) (1140/928) 11.15 The Pink
Panther Show (s) (5688/25) 11.40 Dog
City (r) (5510803) 12.00 Fruity Stories (f) (Telelex!) (s) (30638) 12.30 Sesame Street (n) (42164) 1.30 Alfred J. Kwak (68348831) 1.55 Ginger Nutt's Forest Dragon, Followed by How Now Boing Boing (44637299)

2.15 FILM: Two Thousand Women (1944, bwy with Phyllis Calvert and Patricia Roc A Second World War cornedy drama about a group of women detainees in France, assisting three RAF airmen to escape from the Nazis Directed by Frank Lauder (729198)

4.00 Jimmy's (r) (Teletext) (s) (928) 4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (812) 5.00 Ningaloo. A wildlife documentary (r) (Teletext) (7218)

6.00 T.F.I. Friday. Chris Evans starts the weekend with guests Jane Horrocks and Yasmın LeBon Plus music from Pete Townshend, Manic Street Preachers, Skunk Anansie, Presidents of the USA and the Cranbernes (s) (76928)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (305909) 7.55 Book Choice Philippa Gregory reviews Mahryn Bragg's Credo (648560)

8.00 Fruity Stories. How enthusiasts can identify fruit trees in midwinter (Teletext) (\$1.4367) 8.30 Brookside, (Teletext) (5) (6102)

9.00 Cybill. Cybill decides to give up on the dating game (Teletext; (s) (7812)

9.30 Father Ted. Father Dougal's new pet rabbit threatens to disrupt a visit by the Eighop Teleparty (c) (71473)

10.00 Roseanne. Featuring a guest accessance by Shelley Winters (Teleter): 31367

10.30 Rory Bremner — Who Else? The catifical comedian and impressionly, with John Bird and John Fortune is:



Gaultier, de Caunes return (11.10pm)

11.10 CHOICE Eurotrash. With Jean Paul Gaultier and Anloine de Caunes (s) (100812)
11.40 CHOICE Flava. An eight-part celebration of black music

12.15am T.F.i. Friday (s) (597139) 1.15 Beavis and Butt-Head (s) (67481)

styles (s) (777305)

1.45 FILM: Comic Book Confidential (1990) A feature-length documentary profiling 22 of the leading artists and writers of comic books, graphic novels and strip carroons in Arnerica. Directed by Ron Mann (204110). Ends at 3.20

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday SKY ONE

7.00em Und.m (41955) 9.00 Press You Luck (823254) 9.20 Love Connection (822270) 9.45 Cons Wirting (8007356) 10.40 Jeopardy (2808270) 11.10 Sally Jeop Raphiel (9316102) 12.00 Beachy (9352) 12.00 Beachy (9352) 12.00 Count Wirting (5775219) 4.15 Undun 19325367 5.00 Sall Tiek The Next Generation (9344) 6.00 The Surposos (9376-6.30 Jeopardy (1909) 7.00 LAPD (1753) 7.30 Jeopardy (1909) 7.00 LAPD (1753) 7.30 Jeopardy (1909) 7.00 LAPD (1753) 7.30 Jeopardy (1909) 7.00 LAPD (1753) 7.75 Jeopardy (1753 7.00em Und. 1419551 9.00 Press Your (103) 130 (1445H (1713) 8.00 Just Kidding (8538) 8.30 Jermay's (9212) 9.00 Walker, Texas Ranger (6658) 10.00 Ster Tick. The Next Generation (99616) 11.00 Meriose Piace (85541) 12.00 Late Show nerth David Letterman (7284226) 12.45mm The That's of Rosse O'Nest (7125464) 1.30 Long Play (186-892)

SKY NEWS News or the hour.
9.30am Certury (82305) 10.30 ABC
9.30am Certury (82305) 10.30 ABC
(5)diffine (90034) 1.30pm CBS News
(5251; 2.30 CBS, News (4747) 3.30
(5015); 8.30 Tonghi with Adam.
Souther (22164 7.30 Sportshe (4383))
8.30 Entertainment (3760; 11.30 CBS News
(57683) 12.30am ABC World News (25684) (37686) Talsuma Ast vento nema (acces) 1.30 Torogit esti Adem Souton Ropley (2413a: 2.30 Mortenes Report (4693) 3.30 Cemmy (41481) 4.30 CBS Ness (36416) 5.30 ABC News (60°39) SKY MOVIES

**Comm The Big Steel (1949) (\$249725)
**CS Meet the People (1944) (\$6536589)
**CS Meet the People (1933) (\$6950) (1.00
**Super Mario Bros (1933) (\$2231) (1.00
**Super Mario Bros (1933) (\$2231) (1.00
**Me Billiot (1977) (74947) 2.000m Son of
the Pinit Panther (1933) (\$5023) 4.00 Six
**Penit (1945) (\$238) 6.00 Super Mario
Bros (1943) (\$236-4) 8.00 The OJ Simples Short (1945) (4290) (1.000 Taking and Story (1985) (4290) -10.00 Taking the Heat (1982) (4290) -11.45-Once a Third (1981) (441454) 1.35an The All-Application Part (1981) (471454) 2.35an The All-Application Part (1981) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (4715) (471 American Boy (1979) (78907)- 3.35 Getting Gotti (1994) (92717459)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm Carousal (1956) (97596725) 6.05 Women of the Year (1942) (2636557) 8.00 Rocky IV (1985) (17251) 10.00 Raid on Entebbe (1979) (34676) 12.30em Beby, fir You (1992) (110503) 2.15-4.05 The Main Event (1979) (731400) THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am That's Entertainment, Part 3 (1994) (65270) 8.00 Simbad (4337541; 8.50 The Coralcan Brothers (3570744) 10.00 For the First Time (1959) (13473) 10.00 For the First Time (1959) 1134731 12.00 Marty (1955) (72359) 2.00pm That's Entertainment, Part 3 (1994) (41270) 4.00 Sandolsen: The TV Movie (1995) (19631) 7.30 UK Top Ten (16531) 8.00 City Silckers: The Legend of Carry's Gold (1994) (33251) 10.00 Desin-lition Man (1993) (333935) 1,555. The Dark Half (1992) (170454) 1.555m Sun-mer School (1987) (65032), 2.35 Detec-tive Story (1951) (43065941) THE DISNEY CHANNEL Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm

509 Movem Chack Atlack (4753529) 6.30 Crup in Dale Resoue Rangers (42963102) 7.06 Ducktales (10392541;7.30 Winner the Poon (10311676) 8.00 Chack Atlack (83573251) 8.90 Chack Atlack (83573251) 8.90 Strockurts and Mear (93596102) 9.30 Strockurts and Mear (93596102) 9.30 Chack Atlack (56236611) 10.00 Ducktales (4955455) 10.30 Chu in Dale Resoue Rangers 10.30 Chp in Date Bische (495545-)
10.30 Chp in Date Bische Renger (9352365) 11.00 Whrite his Poph (4267-)365 11.30 Check Attack (4250215) 12.00 Dency (6380544) 1.00pc FLM: Baudy and the Beast (4955676) 2.30 Winne the Poph (95535744) 3.00 Check (87646676) 3.30 Dudches (80547889) 4.00 Chp in Date Resone (80547889) 4.00 FLM: Beasty and the Beast (69034099) 9.30 (8.00 Re Molton) of Toy Stor. (62550003)

EUROSPORT 7.30em Karring (99622) 8.30 Motorcycing (36725) 9.00 Indycar (29096) 10.00 dasset-ball (16667) 11.30 Snowpoording (73505) ball (1903) | 12.00 Weightling (1998) | 2.00 Meightling (1998) | 2.00 M

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sky Spors Contre (21357) 7.30 Wrecting (5154) 8.30 Reorg (41657) 9.00 Aerobics Co. 37/8 (32903) 9.30 Reps, (97251) 10.30 Nethusters (62921) 11.30 Aerobes 45-751 12-30pm Boots n at 70096; 1.30 Trans World Sport, A James, at (700%) 1.30 Trans World Sport, A Landt, or sports from around the gross (71755, 2.50 Pulpy, (80847) 4.30 Formus 3 Record, 14571 4.00 Nethoders, (41501) 5.00 Wristing (6227) 6.00 Sey Scorts (63034) 7.00 Pulpy Sonet League World Championsum Season Perew (6425) 10.30 Sey Sports Certre (4703) 11.30 Trans World Sports Certre (4703) 11.30 Trans World Sports (4707) 12.304m Pulpy Sports Certre (4703) 11.50 Trans World Sport (4707) 12.004m Pulpy Sport League Warringto's Harrier (6281) 2.30-3.30 Supercess When Cremporating Prevent (64115) SKY SPORTS 2

7.00pm End Zone — World League of American Foodball Previous (968-164) 8.00 Pro-Am Shooker (7207367) 12.00 Surf Salang (92010750) 12.30-1.30em Fireto Une (7715961) THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00cm Thought for the Day 4.05 Worship 4.15 Kidz TV 4.30 The Cutting Edge of Destroy with Wayne Maccourt 5.00 Vocas of Victory with Kermem and Gors Copaland 5.30 Christian Music TV 5.45 Reformers SKY SOAP 7.00pm Guiding Light (8837015: 7.55 Ac the World Turns (1417947) 8.50 Peptin the World Turns (1417947) 8.50 Peptin Place (3552560) 9.20 93ys of Cur Lives (3131255) 10.10-11.00 Anostar World

SKY TRAVEL 11.00am Georgeoffer (7936657) 11.30 American Vacanon (8708454) 12.30pm The Peal Food of China (1839818) 1.00 Getawa (3109763) 1.30 Great Exposes (1339183: 2.00 El Report (4297947) 2.30 Crusing the Giose (5777333) 3.00 Giose-(4276454) 3.30 Around

4.00 Horday Stop (10462102) THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Weapons at the TP31:939, 5.00 Mystelies of the Bone (4290034) 6.00-7.00 Biography FDR (1348221)



THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 1.00am The Sor Million Dollar Man 19772481; 2.00 FELM. The Magnotic Mon-ster (55792868; 3.20-4.00 Alires Hitchcock

9.00em Suprisa Chais (3/30857) 9.30 Gardener: Diary (1866812) 10.00 Stagostruck (4651/56; 10.30 Cur House 1021571 11.00 Room for improvement (7113909) 11.30 Cultures (7114678) 12.00 Julia Chia (3012633) 12.30pm The Frugal Gourmet 1916522) 1.00 Yan Can Cook (105251) 1.20 Furnings to Go (1915295) 2.00 Ctar House (8452725) 2.30 Gentlers Without Berders (6325676) 3.00 Surraming Retis (2465560) 3.30-4.00 Tims Old House

RK GOLD

7.00am Angels (1962636, 7.30 Neighbours (1974472) 8.00 Suns and Deughless (201164) 8.30 EastEnders (201769) 9.00 The Selsens (1997667) 10.00 Pergerat (197667) 11.00 Busseya (115367) 11,30 Oct One Out (3159454) 12,05pm Sons and Daughters (23798831) 12.30 Neighbours (1918385) 1.00 EssEmans (4450473) 1.35 Syles (2764218) 2.15 The Liver Brids (410763) 2.50 Torny and June (3154522) 3.30 The BN (6290251) 4.00 Casually (713947) 5.00 Every Second Course (5053855) 5.45 Allo (416) (989247) 6.25 EastEndars (9.081763) 1.00 The Execution Course (5150876) (416) (989247) 6.25 EastEndars (9.081763) 7.00 The Best of Top of the Pops (4814893) 8.00 Bullseys (3475947) 8.30 To the Manor Pom (8454454) 9.00 Lydon's Dary (4843305) 10.00 The Bit (2914909) 10.35 Fibry Rich and Caffap (2912505) 11.15 Filts Superman III (5683183) 1.25 Caron Conhadelial (3823023) 2.00 Shopping

6.00am Tray and crew (65560) **7.00** Sociamic St. (95386) **8.00** Semicy (64522) **8.30** Oriobstres (63895) **9.00** Art Attack (2178955) **9.15** No Naked Flames (2778355) 9.15 No Neked Flames (247835) 9.00 Ready or Not (27783) 10.00 Hearthread High (14782) 10.00 Hong Time (23657) 11.00 Androon (29658) 11.30 Berustens Chiz (29657) 12.00 Garfield (14669) 12.30am Few (34251) 1.00 Earthroom Jun (28208) 1.30 Creepy Creation (2852) 2.00 EM and Text (17891) 2.30 Gravette High (270830) 3.00 Few (270830) 3.00 Few (270830) 3.00 Hearthread High (270830) 4.00 California Orders (27094) 4.30-6.00 Hearthread High

MICKELODEON
6.00am Barana Sandrech (23744) 7.00 Killer Tomator (2390) 7.30 Per Shop (1744) 8.00 Wistbons (40938 8.30 Rude Dog (4929) 9.00 Biter Mer (2325) 9.30 Clarisca (69541) 10.00 Fuguitic (69201) 10.30 Asabhri Real Monsters (69201) 10.30 Asabhri Real Monsters (69201) 10.30 Captal (46522) 11.30 Doug (4625) 11.00 Rocke (45522) 11.30 Doug (4625) 12.00 State Seele (43015) 12.30 pm Petrano Petra (70657) 1.00 Captal Critics (1990) 1.30 Petr Shop (79922) 2.00 Wishbore (4305) 2.30 Rude Dog and the Diverse (9134) 3.00 Count Duckule (5512) 3.30 Mighty May (2299) 4.00 False of the Cryphaeper (4034) 4.30 Rugers (3375) 5.00 Store Sister (5657) 5.30 Cryphaey II (4270) 6.00 Ren & Simply (1183) 6.30-7.00 Are You Arraid of the Dark? (5763) DISCOVERY 4,00pm Time Travellers (6319928) 4.30 Human, Nature (6308812) 5.00 Treasure Hunters (6477905) 5.30 Voyager (6399164) 6,00 Fire (6329305) 6.30 Beyond 2000

(9009251) 7.30 Anhur C Clarke's World of

Strange Powers (69095/11) 8.00 Juraspice 3

NICKELODEON_

:4821193) 8.00 American Justice Files (4841947) 10.00 Classic Wheels (484034) 11.00-12.00 Supership (1079828) BRAVO 12.00 FILM Spellbound (4998396) 2.00pm 12.00 FILM Spellbound (199838) 2.00pm Return of the Samt (497925); 2.00 Except total (7105980) 4.00 FILM Shake, Raitle and Rock (209425) 5.30 Death Valley Days (620212) 6.00 Danger Man (631663) 7.30 Sapphire and Steel (630367) 8.00 Return of the Santi (420590) 9.00 UFO (4238473) 10.00-12.00 The Sweeney (7104251)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Diffrent Strokes (5593) 7.30 Entertranment (1947) 8.00 Des Scuth (73893) 8.00 Soup (6538) 9.30 Tav (55993) 10.00 Frasion (41744) 10.30 Frontiere 2 (40164) 11.00 Eob (60831) 11.30 Dr h.st: (6906\$) 12.60 The Vecant Lot 193641 12.30am Benson (64435) 1.00 Wings (82874) 1.30 Laveme and Shirty (26752) 2.00 Entertainment (20675) 2.30 Frankline 7 /32400) 3.00 Bob (99110) 3.30-

UK LIVING **6.00am** Filtroy (5042763) **7.00** Eather (4237) US: **7.30** The foung and the Perfess (4037270) 8.30 Gardeners World (8342536) 9.00 Maxterchel 92 (884183) 9.35 Kate 5. Albe (8362593) 10.05 Jery Surniya (8252518) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (8339182) 11.55 Food and Drink 4147744 12.30pm Dangerous Worren (9619908) 1.25 Crosswits (6569385) 2.00 Agony Hour (2542367) 3.00 Line of Three (6910541) 4.00 Internation UK (257522) 4.30 Crosswits (3564560) 5.05 Lingo (75841214) 5.30 Linchy Ladders (7597366) 6.00 Bewiched (2594299) 8.30 Cro the Bed with Paula (8275763) 7.05 The Returnin Cook (6052299) 7.35 The Returnin Cook (6052299) 7.35 The On the Bed earn Paula (82/37/5) 7.05 The Reluctural Cook (905239) 7.95 The Johen's Wax (6121531) 8.05 Street Legal (9559947) 9.00 FEAN (93016) 11.30-12.00 More Sex Life (1659522) FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Road to Avontea (4645367) 5.55 Family Live Pop Stor (575560) 8.00 Batman (4299 6.30 Celonphrase (6251, 7.00 Final Purson (8909) 7.30 Jake and the Kid (32763) 8.30 Duty Free (6164) 9.00 The Buth Rendell Mystenes Mouse in risk Correr 19973) 10,00 Treasure Hunt 1925601 11,00 Strens 148305) 12,00 Julya and the kid (63110) 1,00am Batman (49400) 1,30 GP (79802) 2,00 Big Brother Library Strength Corporation (49400) Jake (16431) 2.30 Spens (35868) 3.30 GP (76868) 4.00-5.00 Road to Avantea (24665)

7-30am Supermodel 1 (10522) 8.00 Morning Mo. (425454) 11.00 Dence Floor Chart (29270) 12.00 Greatest H4s (15744) (38:70) 12:00 Steamer Hrs. (1974) 1:00pm Music Non-stop (30283) 3.00 53led MTV (3554)) 4.00 Hanging Cut 1:700; 6.00 Dai MTV (6557) 6.30 MTV 89rs. (7309) 7.00 Dance Floor Chart 1:2947) 8.00 Celebrity Mix (506:8) 9.30 Amour (1736-) 10:30 Singled Cut (86744) 11:00 Party Zone (96102) 1.00am Highl Videos (1399961)

7.00am Power Breakfast (3168034) 9.00 (Cefe VH-1 (1152378) 12.00 Heart and Soul (1351305 1.00pm virgi Years (1337725) 2.00 Ten of tra Boor Bonnie Radii (6477247) 3.00 Into the Music (1774903) 6.00 Happy Hor (125789) 7.00 VH+1 for 100 (2250522) 8.00 Beat Club 806 (427:5411 **8.30** Weekerst Remem (4289676) **9.00** Ten of the Best Curro Singers (92150):41 **10.00** Vm/l Years (9285893) 11.00 Actuary 200 Around (3149270) 12.00 The Nightili, Rocks 4259394: **2.00** Dece

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7.00em Jaegian (45888993) 7,30 Zee Presents (37271589) 9,00 Aap Ki Farmaish Presents (37271589) 9.00 Aap K, Farmash (25977744) 9.30 High Life (25325305) 10.00 Barnegi Aprii Baat (38520386) 10.30 Urdu Serial Aehiai (22397980) 11.30 Tamii Movie (76843675) 2.30pm Buniyaad (8379299) 3.00 Hindi Serial Bharra BK Khoj (68819367) 4.00 Video Junction (83743251) 4.30 Khel Time (83772783) 5.00 Article (33782783) (837/2/63) 5.00 Zone (2768025) 5.30 % Jby Show (83763015) 6.00 Zebean Sambhal Ke (83760926) 6.30 Zee & U (83744960 7.00 BBCO (2760015) 7.30 Namente India (83740164) 8.00 News (27619763) 8.30 Antalsahar (27698270) 9.00-12.00 Hinds FILM Khilaal (29129831)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm.

Continuous carloons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT (lins as below, 7.00pm WCW Nitro on TNT (Where the Big Boys Play!) () (85003676) 8.00 Logen's Run (1976) (85063812) 10.00 San Francisco (1936) (1936)47; 12.05am Hide in Plain Sight (1980) (5010)110/12 SAIr Raid Wardens (1943) (45923892) 3.00-5.00 The Crocked

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CNN/QVC

7.00pm Hancock, Zavmul and Guida 8.00 Verdi's Falstaffrom the Royal Opcra House 10.30 Beetscren's Evening with Peter Schreer 12.00-1.00em Hancock Tno BBC WORLD

Nows on the tipus 8.05am Scrutry 9.30 Madhis Jakiny's Far Eastern Cookey 10.30 Book Show 1.15pm Hear of the Matter 2.15 Business 2.30 Newshour Aca and Pacific 3.30 Tomorrow's World 4.05 Scruticy 5.30 Neidley 8.05 Scrutics 4.05 Scruticy 5.30 Neidley 8.05

Schuler, 9.30 Film. 96 12.10am New high 1.20 Bittain in View 2.10 Newmon 3.20 Window on Europe 4.05 Correspondent 5.00 Newmony FRIDAY APRIL 12 1996

Ballesteros recalls Augusta heyday with inspired recovery shots

Gilford shows first round mastery again

THE Masters reveres tradition and, at Augusta National Golf Club, it is now traditional that David Gilford leads the Masters. The softly-spoken Englishman did so on his first visit to this famous tournament, in 1995, not allowing himself to be overawed as he walked in the footsteps of so much history. In his quiet, understated way, he did so again vesterday.

It was not for long in 1995, and it was not for long yesterday. Bob Tway, playing with Ted Tryba in the match ahead of Gilford, came in with a 67, five under par, to be the early leader in the first round. However, he was rudely shouldered aside by a storming 65 by Phil Mickelson. The left-hander, many people's fa-vourite to win here, had an astonishing inward half of 30.

Nevertheless, the name Gilford, accompanied by the red figure 2, to indicate he was two under par, appeared on leaderboards all over the course, and for a time there was no one to challenge him. Two under after three holes. Gilford jumped to four under after he eagled the 13th.

No other golf course in the world has such a capability to defend itself against anyone taking liberties with it. It offers the velvet glove one minute, the iron list the next. The velvet glove had been proffered on the 13th. Gilford's three-iron ended 12 feet from the hole and he sank the pun for a three on a hole where players are sometimes grateful to escape with a five. As Gilford stood on the loth tee, a six-iton in his hand, he might have sensed he was about to be hit by the iron fist.

All week there has been a biting wind in this part of Georgia This, combined with morning and evening cutting of the greens, made them as fast as in recent memory on the opening day. Gilford's tee shot on the 16th ended 30 feet from the flag, which was positioned in the top righthand corner of the green. His first attempt on this notoriously tricky green, which is exceptionally fast, almost

exceptionally fast, almost stopped by the hole. "I hit it a smidgen too much." Gilford said. The result was that, after almost coming to a halt, it slowly gained momentum and began running back down the green. It ended further away than it had started. Welcome to Augusta, to what Johnny Miller calls the spring putting

Gilford's next putt shot past the hole, so did his next and it was with some relief that he holed out for a five, a double bogey. Gilford's excessive qui-etness is not a front. He really is as imperturbable as he seems and this characteristic



Tway: early leader

came to his rescue now for. regrouping himself and his emotions, he hit a nine-iron to four feet and sank it for a birdie, his third of the day, on the 17th. He finished with a oar four for a 69, one stroke ahead of Paul Azinger.

In the United States, Gilford is known not only for his softspoken nature and his putt to defeat Brad Faxon in the last Ryder Cup. Word that he is a gentleman farmer has reached these shores, too, bringing with it numerous jokes about mad cow disease.

times be 250 acres; mine is 50," Gilford said. "It really is a hobby. I have 25 to 30 cattle

No 754

The solution to 753 will be published Wednesday, April 17

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Phil Silvers' Sergeant (5)

3 Unemphatic (3-3)

had a line (10)

14 Expert (slang) (3.4)

soul (6)

19 Trickster (5)

20 Excessive (5)

woman (7)

4 Impedimenta; naughty

5 Land, esp. the lie of it (7)

German WWI marshal.

13 One from Birmingham (7)

16 Nymph loved by Cupid; the

Three Bears girl (10)

ACROSS

I Scented foam for tub (6.4)

tionship (4,3)

8 Circumference (5)

12 Psychic energy (6)

15 Session with medium (6)

17 Tiny piece of bread or com-

18 Give way to influence (7)

Pacific island, rugby in

10 Undress (7)

; II Once more (5)

fort (5)

22 Hard cheese (7)

a 23 Right in the middle (4,6)

7 Current/resistance/PD rela-

aged herween 25 and six years old. I have never had a case of BSE. Normally my cattle would fetch £150 each, but now I suppose they are worth nothing." He paused and smiled before adding: "I am still eating beef."

Right on cue for the start of the sixtieth Masters, the temperature rose and what could pass for a proper spring sun in these southern states of the United States came out to shine on Gene Sarazen, Sam Snead and Byron Nelson as they performed the opening ceremony. Sarazen, Nelson and finally Snead, whose ages total 261 years, all drove from the 1st tee, in a vivid, Proustian tableau, a blessed remem-brance of times past.

All three found the fairway, which was more than could be said for Severiano Ballesteros. who bunkered his drives at the 1st and 2nd, at the short 4th. and the long 8th. You would not have known it from his score. With the sort of wizardry that must have impressed his young nephews who, with their father, Manuel, were leading the Ballesteros support group, he saved par on the 1st and 2nd and squeezed a birdie out of the uphill 8th to reach the turn in 38.

His swing on the raised 10th tee looked as smooth as ever, etched in the mind's eye against a background of pine trees, but in attempting to draw his drive so that his ball would land and bound down the slope, Ballesteros overdid it. The ball ricocheted from a tree on the left of the fairway and stopped perhaps 230 yards from the tee, 60 yards behind Jeff Maggert, not a notably-long hitter. From a downhill and sidehill lie. Ballesteros hit a thin-looking iron shot that ended short and left of the green. Again his short game came to his rescue. He pitched to nine feet and

That recovery marked the start of a good run. He came back in 35, one under par. thanks to a birdie on the 15th. and his 73 is a better score than you would have thought possible if you had watched him driving on the 1st and 2nd holes. Augusta, a course and a place Ballesteros adores, may yet prove to be a welcome stop

on his journey to recovery. For Frank Nobilo, like Gilford playing in his second Masters, it provided a new experience. Peter Jacobsen, his playing partner, had withdrawn only moments before teeing off suffering from sore muscles in his chest. Nobilo



played the first two holes on his own. "It was weird," the New Zealander said after his 71. "It was like going to a

wedding without the bride." It was a lot less weird, however, than Sam Torrance's 80. his worst score here by four strokes. For Torrance, for whom so much seems to be going so well, this was a rare sethack and in marked contrast to the brilliance of his playing partner, Mickelson.

competition.

We accept that the union is

"But we do want to

club representatives

"We are not some Packer-

the governing body." Donald

Kerr, the EPRUC chairman,

arrange and manage our own

affairs and maximise the reve-

nue we need to run our clubs.

At this stage we don't intend to

EARLY FIRST-ROUND SCORES

69; D. Gilford (GB), R. Fascon 70: P Azinger, S McCarron, S McCarron

71: T Aaron, J Maggert, F Nobilo (NZ). N Price (Zim), S Lowery 72; T Tryba, H Sutton

75: G Brewer B Casner 76: K Triplett, E Dougherty, N Lancasse T Herron, B Herrninger 78: 8 Brysnt, M McCumber, I Baker-Finch

74: D A Welbring, J Sturnan, M Roe (GB), A Palmer.

79: G Marucci, S Torrance (GB) 81: D Ford

82: C Coods

Clubs appeal to Bishop in attempt to break deadlock with RFU

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BILL BISHOP, the president of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), is the man who can break the deadlock between the union and its leading clubs. Yesterday, the clubs appealed to Bishop to exert his authority in the search for Knocks against; child's eg birthday horseplay (5) a reconciliation, without which they will withdraw from all RFU competitions next season. Only a year ago, Bishop,

then senior vice-president, resign from the union but we was cast in the role of "old are fighting for our future. If fart" after televised comments anyone at the RFU thinks this about the RFU committee by is a game of bluff, they are sadly mistaken." Will Carling, then England captain. Now, the 66-year-old After a five-hour meeting. Cornishman may become a unifying force but only by emerged to claim that not only overriding the union's negotidid they carry their own ating panel, including Cliff management boards with them — and by extension club members — but that leading Brittle, chairman of the RFU executive committee but perplayers, whose representaceived by the clubs as the main stumbling block. tives met the RFU yesterday.

Twelve club representatives were fully informed of their - nine from the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship and three from the type organisation who will go off and play rebel rugby," Peter Wheeler, spokesman for second, including the six directors of the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs Ltd (EPRUC) - met in London the first division clubs, said. We are a body of clubs that yesterday and agreed not to have been around for 100 participate in the RFU club years and more, we have deep

structure proposed for the roots in our communities. We coming season. Instead, they are not a bunch of guys coming along, looking to make a fast buck or hijack seek the union's acceptance of their own structure, embracing a 12-club English Conferanything. We believe this is ence, plus an Anglo-Welsh tournament and European the right way forward." Though the clubs may be

temporising now, their belief. is that they have both the commercial and television support to sustain a breakaway. If they cannot reach

Thomas Wacker, 52, an American-born Irishman, is to be the new chief executive of the International Rugby Football Board. Wacker, an investment banker, was named yesterday to succeed Keith Rowlands and will start his new job on May I. Wacker was chairman of IFG International and First National Trustee Company.

accord with the union, they intend to put their independent plans in motion and begin their English Conference games on August 31.

"Even at this late hour we believe that a compromise solution must be reached with the RFU, otherwise there will be a split for which the RFU will be held responsible." a statement said. That is the

position which the union's full committee will discuss today, "I'm delighted they have stopped short of a breakaway or anything that would make the position very difficult to reconcile," Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, said. The clubs believe it significant that Bishop was not present on Tues-day, when the RFU declared its unbending opposition to the concept of shared control of the English game — a concept which has drawn support from, among others, Syd Millar, president of the Irish Rugby Football Union. "It's a pity that one or two of Cliff Brittle's colleagues on the RFU are stabbing him in the back." Millar said, suggesting that English clubs were taking

the road to bankruptcy. Their contention is that they will arrive there anyway, if they toe the RFU line. "The RFU has made it clear that there is no more money to fund the professional game next year," Wheeler said. "We have nothing to lose going

outside the union. "But we are moving to the point where we are staring down the barrel, and that's where common sense must

Sports letters, page 34

Portuguese » club may offer misfit Brolin an escape route

By DAVID MADDOCK

TOMAS BROLIN. The Leeds United forward, is about to end his troubled tenure at Elland Road. The players agent was in Portugal last night, for talks with FC Porto. about a prospective transfer.

Brolin, a Sweden interna-

tional, has publically declared his determination to leave Leeds, just four mouths after joining the club in 14.5 million transfer. Despite be-coming the most expensive player in the club's history, he was constantly overlooked by Howard Wilkinson, the man ager, as relations between the pair appeared to degenerate

Brolin was only a substitute at the Coca-Cola Cup final, and afterwards expressed his wish for a speedy departme, when told by Tommy Svensson, the Sweden manage er, that his international place was in jeopardy. Now Lars Petersen, his

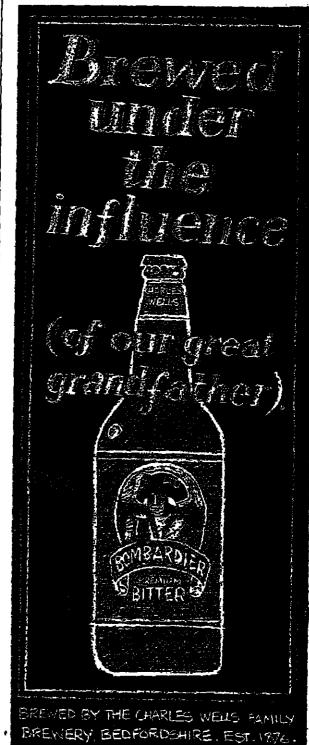
agent, is negotiating the move that will end an unhappy chapter in his career. He said that talks were progressing with Porto, and added: "I think it is time for Tomas to move to another club.

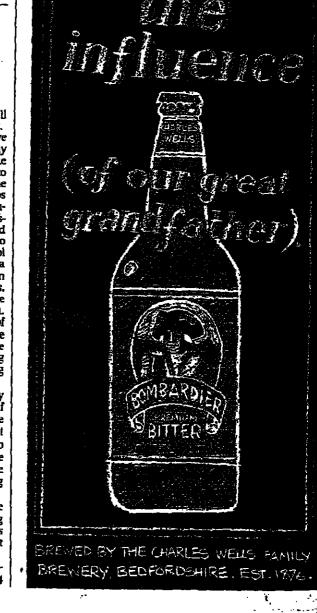
Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, has been barred from receiving FA Cup final tickets for the next ten years, after it was discovered that two tickets allocated to him for last year's final had been sold on for a figure nearly six times their face value. The Football Association

(FA) accepted that McCarthy had not profited from the sale. He had given the tickets to friends, who had sold then on. A spokesman for the FA. however, said that the situation reflected the need for supreme caution.

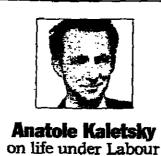
We want to avoid these situations at all costs," he said. 'Mr McCarthy's 660 tickets were sold to Norwegians for £350 each, and that really does bring the game into disrepute. t is a rip-off.

Ivano Bonetti, of Grimsby Town, has finally made peace with Brian Laws, his club manager. The Italian forward. who signed from Juventus. suffered a fractured cheekbone after a dressing-room altercation with Laws earlier this season. Yesterday, however, Bonetti pledged his future to the club. "I want to play for the club, I have no further argument with the manager." he said.









Part one, PAGE 20

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Middle class? John is still working class, says Mr Prescott senior



POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN PRESCOTT, who made the ultimate leap for new Labour yesterday when he abandoned his working-class roots and announced he had joined the middle classes, was rebuked by his 85-year-old father last

might.
The deputy Labour leader, whose class warrior approach to politics and abrasive rhetoric had often seemed at odds with Tony Blair's attempts to modernise the party, took even his enemies by surprise.

Challenged about Labour's move

away from its working-class traditions on Radio 4's Today programme yesterday Mr Prescott, former shipping steward and MP for Hull East, replied: "I can tell you, I'm pretty middle class."

Nobody was more astonished by his class conversion than his father, John, a former railway signalman. who said: "He is the son of a railwayman and grandson of a miner. How can he be anything other than working class? John worked as a steward on ships serving drinks to well-to-do passengers. If that's not working class I cannot think what is, When I see him I shall ask him what

be proud to be working class. I am." Mr Prescott, 55, and his wife, Pauline, live in an eight-bedroom house with crenellations in a row of

he thinks he's playing at. He should

East Hull, known locally as "Prescott

Mr Prescott senior, who lives in a E32-a-week one-bedroom council flat in Chester, said: "I live in the hope of seeing him in an even bigger house. The one at 10 Downing Street. But he would still be the same working-class

lad I brought up.
"John has had to work all his life, which makes him working class. I know some people think they can move up a class in life if they get on a bit but they are daft. Once you are working class that's the end of it. There is too much middle-class talk in today's Labour Party."

Mr Prescott senior, a Labour Party stalwart for 60 years, former councillor and magistrate, said: "I had small

cashed in all my insurance policies to buy the house. John has a grand big house and garden but that does not put him up in a different class.

" It's because of his working-class values that he has become what he is. I am very proud of him. But he has to stop this middle-class nonsense. Some boys still listen to their father, you know, no matter how old they

There was also disappointment in Hull at Mr Prescott's conversion. John Canvess, secretary of Hull Trades & Labour Club, said: "We don't want any truck with this middle-class talk here." At the Belmont social club in his constituency they were not surprised. Leslie hypocrite. They are all as bad." Harry Woodford, a Hull Labour

councillor and Mr Prescott's agent, said: "I don't care what class anybody is as long as they vote Labour." Ken Turner, shipping grades organiser in Hull for the Rail, Maritime and Transport Union worked on the ships when Mr Prescott was a steward and has known the MP since 1964. "He's not lost any of his working-class values, his position remains as it always was

on the side of the workers." Mr Prescott was unmoved: "Only in England could you have a big argument about class."

Is class a myth?, page 5



Father: astonished

'Soul-searching' plea by Redwood

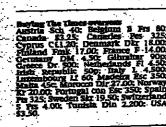
Right calls for change after poll collapse

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND PETER RIDDELL

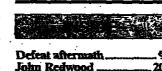
JOHN MAJOR faced a fresh outbreak of unrest in the Tory party last night as right-wing MPs demanded a change of direction in the wake of a devastating by-election set-

back for the Government. Hours after the Labour Party inflicted a stunning defeat in the Staffordshire South East by-election, turning a Conservative majority of 7,192 into a Labour one of 13,762 and reducing the Government's majority to one, senior Conservatives issued a warning of further electoral losses unless new policies were introduced swiftly.

A string of right-wing MPs called for further tax cuts and clearer policies on Europe to win back voters. John Redwood, the former Cabinet minister, led criticism of the party's recent strategy by at-tacking the lack of vision and demanding a "moral crusade" of tax-cutting to win back Tory supporters. Writing in The Times today, Mr Redwood calls for some "soul-searching by the Conservatives" and says that the by-election result should not be "brushed aside too readily by the Government. People's worries should be taken seriously."



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Leading article, letters..

Anatole Kaletsky

Graham Searjeant. Senior Tories admitted that they were shaken by the size of Labour's victory. This is about as bad as we could have

expected," one party campaigner said. A jubilant Tony Blair said last night that Labour's triumph meant that it now cut across traditional class and party divisions and was the only party representing the

centre and capable of uniting the country. Speaking as he finished a three-day visit to Washington. Mr Blair said that it was increasingly possible that the general election would come earlier than next year. It was time for the people to make their choice. He wanted to ensure that Labour was in shape to govern the country.

Speaking in Washington the Labour leader sought to appear the national rather than party leader, saying that at his White House meeting with President Clinton yesterday they had discussed world problems such as Northern Ireland, free trade and global economic insecurity rather than merely partisan matters. The President praised Mr

Blair for his "very statesmanlike" approach to the Northern Ireland peace process, treating the Labour leader like a prime minister in waiting. In London, Mr Major made

change of course to attract Tory voters, insisting that more work needed to be done But Tories voiced fears that further heavy defeats in next month's local elections could allow Labour to build up an unstoppable momentum.

Although the Prime Minister conceded that the byelection defeat was disappointing, he tried to calm Tory nerves by telling MPs not to over-react to the result and by reminding them that the party had bounced back from byelection setbacks to win general elections.

"I remember many people consigned the Government to oblivion after the Ribble Valley by-election, where the swing was the same. We went on to win the general election a year later with the largest popular vote ever. I am disappointed by last night's result, but politics is not an easy ride I am here to do what is right

and stick with it." It was Mr Blair's claim that the result showed Labour as a new party of the centre ground that prompted Tory rightwingers to press for a more distinctive approach from the

Government Nicholas Budgen, a leading right-wing Tory MP and Euro-sceptic, said the party had not been radical enough and too much attention was being given to "the so-called middle ground' ".

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, appeared to support calls for a change of emphasis. He said: "Yesterday's by-election must be the signal for a new Conservative crusade to alert people to the dangers they face from a Labour government." clear that he is not preparing a



Susannah Schofield, widow of the BBC radio reporter John Schofield, who was killed in Croatia last year, shows off their daughter Charlotte, now six days old. Mr Schofield had covered the Balkan conflict since hostilities began in 1991

Thousands flee as Israeli jets attack Lebanon

By Ross Dunn in jerusalem and Our Foreign Staff

ISRAELI helicopters and jets yesterday carried out a series of attacks on Beirut and other Lebanese towns and villages.

Syria said one of its soldiers was killed and seven were seriously wounded at an air defence position in the Lebanese capital. Witnesses said that at least 12 people, including civilians, were hurt in Beirut. Israel denied it was targeting Syrian troops. However, Herzl Bondinger, Israel's air force commander, said vesterday that the attacks on Lebanon would continue

throughout the night. An Israeli spokesman said its warplanes and helicopters were hunting Hezbollah targets in Beirut and the south, where thousands of people fled after being warned that attacks would target 49 towns and villages within four hours. The deadline was later extended by two hours. Israeli planes then carried out at least six raids. Lebanese security sources said eight civilians were killed and eight wound-ed in the Bekaa Valley.

The attack on the valley, where many of the 35,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon are stationed, increased the risk of dragging Damascus into the

British tourists are to be

evacuated from Lebanon today and many others who planned to visit the region over the next few weeks have cancelled their plans.

The decision was taken after the Foreign Office issued a warning vesterday that "travel south of Beirut is inadvisable". stepping up its previous advice to visitors simply to take

As soon as the attacks began, Cox and Kings, a British tour operator with two groups in Lebanon, organised an airlift for a party of 12 who had arrived in Beirut only 24 hours earlier.

"Naturally we are worried that the problem will escalate and we do not want to put any of our customers at risk," said Jenny Hand, from Cox and Kings. Another of the company's groups, which had flown to Syria and was due to spend a day in the Bekaa Valley, will now be redirected.

Other tour operators are also planning to change itineraries. Sheila Taylor of Martin Randall Travel described the fighting as "heartbreaking". She said, however, that the firm had to pull its clients out or to change their travel plans.

> Israeli attacks, page !! Leading article, page 21

Winter makes a comeback

Parts of Britain were hit by snow, sleet and freezing temperatures. Motorists in the Pennines and the Peak District faced heavy rain and snow flurries. The London Weather Centre said that it would get warmer again today and above average tem-peratures are expected by

Mercy killing

An elderly cancer victim died after her son gave her medical heroin "to ease her agony". The man called for new laws to allow mercy killing as police investigated Page 3

Teenager on murder charge escapes

By RICHARD FORD

HOME CORRESPONDENT A TEENAGER accused of murder was on the run last night after escaping when a social worker took him to a swimming pool for a "mobil-

ity" programme. Cleon Reid, 15, fled from the pool at Crystal Palace sports centre in south London after being left unguarded in the

changing rooms.

A judge at the Old Bailey gave permission for the youth to be named because he said he represented a potential danger to the public. The youth, who lives in Lewisham, south London, is accused of murdering Ted Howell, 75, last November. The pensioner was alleged to have been stabbed to death during a burglary at his bome in

Cleon Reid was arrested on

Lewisham.

December 16 and at Camberwell youth court was remanded into the care of Lewisham council's social services department, on condition that he was placed in secure accommodation. The council has no accommodation of that standard so it put him in Orchard House, secure accommodation run by Southwark council. Judge Geoffrey Grigson agreed yesterday that the youth's identity should be made public after being told of

his escape. Nicholas Wood, for the prosecution, told the judge that the teenager had been taken to the swimming pool by a social worker. "He is now on the run and police are understandably extremely

concerned." Last night as Southwark officials began an investiga tion into how the youth had escaped, the two local authorities were involved in a dispute over the terms under which he had been allowed to leave Orchard House.



Reid: fled after swim



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ADVENTURES

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French company plans to keep 30-year-old rolling stock and cut jobs

New rail chief dashes commuters' hopes

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

MILLIONS of south of England commuters were condemned to travelling on 30-year-old "slam-door" trains for the foreseeable future vesterday by the new French owners of their rail franchise. The French water company,

Générale des Eaux, which won the franchise to run Network SouthCentral has warned that there are likely to be job losses among NSC's 3,000 employees and says it has no plans to replace ageing rolling stock on routes between London and the south coast during its seven year contract starting this summer. Instead, the fleet of 800 Mark I electric units, built in York between 1963 and 1967, will be

refurbished to extend their lives to the end of the franchise in 2003, when they will have completed 40 years of service. completed 40 years of service.

Antoine Hurel, the vice chairman of London and South Coast railways, the subsidiary of Générale des Eaux that will run the franchise, said the company would spend up to £10 million improving trains and stations, a

proving trains and stations, a maximum of £12,500 per train. However, rail experts said the planned expenditure would do little to improve the cramped and uncomfortable muters. "That's nothing, you will hardly even get a new livery for that," said Barry Doe, a leading transport con-



Hurel: jobs warning

sultant. These trains are among the most shabby and demoralised left in the country and the thought of having to use them for the next seven years is a pretty grim one."

The franchise provides ser- Health and Safety Executive is vices from London's Victoria. Charing Cross and London Bridge stations to south west London, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire, including the resorts of Hastings, Eastbourne, Brighton. Worthing and Bognor Regis.

The failure by Roger Salm-

on, the rail franchise director. to secure new rolling stock for the line is being seen as a setback for rail privatisation, which the Government has pledged would lead to orders for modern trains.

Mr Salmon, who announced on Wednesday that he is to leave the job in October, said: The rolling stock is fit for the life of this franchise and replacing it would not be economic. The

content with this." Roger Ford, editor of Rail Privatisation
News, said: This is just
another bog standard deal that is no more than a contract to run services on behalf of the

clare Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said: "This award will do nothing the reassure passengers of the safety and reliability of services on these lines, which have rolling stock dating back to the 1960s. This will mean more misery for travellers."

The report into the Clapham disaster recommended that all slam door trains should be replaced by 1997 and last year's Holden report into the Cowden accident, in which five people

Police in

Dublin

question

bombing

suspect

By Nicholas Watt and Stewart Tendler

DETECTIVES in the Irish Republic were last night ques-tioning a man suspected of

involvement in the IRA's

bombing campaign in Britain.

The man, aged 26, was detained in a dawn raid on a

house in Finglas, a working-

class suburb in north Dublin.

He was arrested on Thursday

under the Irish Republic anti-terrorist legislation which

allows him to be held without

charge until later today.

His arrest followed

lengthy surveillance operation by Irish police after the bomb-

ing of South Quay in London's

Docklands, the attack that

marked the end of the IRA's

ceasefire. Sources in the Met

ropolitan Police confirmed

The man, who comes from a

They include "bicycle bomb-

ngs" in 1994 in Brighton and

Bognor Regis in which a

terrorist unit planted bombs

made up of Semtex explosives

Shops were damaged in one of

the strikes but there were no

casualties.

dden in bicycle saddle bags.

their interest in the suspect.

surviving a major crash in a Mark I train was "very low".

The report estimated the cost of strengthening the trains to match the level of protection of modern carriages at £300,000 each.

Mr Hurel also announced that the existing British Rail timerable will be safeguarded and that there would be offpeak and Sunday services for South London and a new service between London and Brighton

In its first year the new company will receive a gov ernment subsidiary of £85.3 million - compared to the original British Rail claim for a £106.28 million subsidy. The franchise is the sixth to pass

New duke not man for all seasons

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE cream of Scotland's aristocracy, dressed in their clan tartan, sat beside tweedsuited gillies, gamekeepers and factors yesterday in the Gothic cathedral of Dunkeld to honour the memory of the 10th Duke of Atholl, George lain Murray.

Only one man looked out of lace. John Murray, a semiretired surveyor from a South African village, who shivered in a tropical-weight blue suit and light coat. The 11th duke had come with his wife, Peggy, and eldest son, Bruce, now Marquess of Tullibardine, to pay respects at his predecessor's memorial service. It was the first time the new duke had visited the area since the death of his distant cousin. But it was not the grove of proud douglas firs overlooking the 13th-century cathedral that made the greatest impression on him, nor the silvery waters of the Tay. It was the weather.

Born and bred in South Africa, the 67-year-old duke looked blue with cold in the biting April wind. Apologising for saying little to waiting journalists, he ex-



plained: "I am sorry; my mind doesn't function in sub-zero

He did, however, reaffirm that the future of the 85-strong Atholl Highlanders, the only private army in Europe and the pride of the late duke, was secure. "It is obvious that the army should be kept." The force may visit his country.

The 10th duke was known for his kindness but also his painful shyness. The 11th duke appears to have inherited the condition. He is a down-to-earth man who has no plans to use his title and for whom the family motto Tout Prest (Quite Ready) eems inappropriate.

Blair Castle since Wednesday and will spend the next week visiting relatives. The castle and the 70.000-acre estate have been placed in trust and do not go with the title. although the late duke's will

has yet to be made public. Five hundred of his family and friends filled the cathedral yesterday and pipers played laments that echoed through the streets of the tiny Perthshire town. The Very Rev Professor Sir Robin Barbour, who fought with the

conducted the service. The Earl of Wemyss and March, who took over from the late duke as president of the National Trust for Scotland. praised his stewardship of the private army. "He found it in a state of eclipse and, by the light of his personality, it shines again. He was a firstclass steward of a wonderful

part of Scotland." Many of the duke's charitable and sporting interests attended including the RNLI and Red Deer Commission.

Memorial service, page 22

staunchly Republican family is someone Scotland Yard has public order offences. wanted to question for some time in connection with earlier bomb attacks.

evening, won £8,847 compensation from the club. Mrs Vaughan, 42, was sacked as Club at Caerwent, Gwent, after refusing to apologise to John Price, the man she bit. An industrial tribunal in Car-

He is understood to have remained under surveillance in Britain and the Irish Republic for the duration of the ceasefire

It was expected that he would appear in court late last night to face a warrant for his extradition to Britain. The proceedings open at the Dis-trict Court in Dublin at which the warrants are presented and a judge sets a date for a full hearing at the court. If the District Court agrees

to the warrant for extradition. the suspect can appeal to the High Court and then finally the Supreme Court.

WENESING. Boy of 13 on murder . charge

A 13-year-old boy has been charged with the murder of Gawen Whalley, 22, a student of Kingston, Dorset, who was killed ten days ago in Sydney while on a working holiday. The juvenile will make his first appearance in a local children's court as Mr Whalley's body is being flown home today, accompanied by his parents, Margaret and Roger Kellow, Mr Whalley was stabbed seven times as he walked home from his parttime factory job.

Girls arrested

Three teenage girls were arrested yesterday in connection with the death of John Burge, 61, who suffered a heart attack as he tried to help his 17-year-old daughter Hel en, who was being attacked by a gang in Oxford. The girls, two aged 16 and one 17 and all from Oxford, were released on bail after being questioned about suspected

Payout to golfer

Philomena Vaughan, the golf-er who punched an alleged groper at a golf club trophy diff ruled that Mrs Vaughan was unfairly dismissed.

HIV all-clear

More than 1.100 people in Scotland who had to be retested for the Aids virus were told yesterday that their original results had been accurate. They were among 26,000 to 30,000 people in Britain who had to be retested after equipment used to determine whether they had HIV was found to be faulty. In England and Wales relesting is still being carried out.

Burger boss goes into higher orbit

The owner of the Planet Hollywood burger restaurants has seen his personal wealth rise from £80 million to £350 million in a year, making him Britain's fastest-rising entrepreneur in the Sunday Times survey Britain's Richest 500.

The increase has taken Robert Earl from 143rd place to the 37th. The top ten in the survey all rank as billionaires for the first time in five years.

The worldwide chain of Planets Holly-

wood have become money-spinners with the help of actors Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis. who all have a stake. Mr Earl, 41, a catering graduate of Surrey University, is

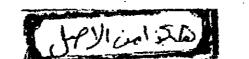
American Stock Exchange and claims his wealth is actually nearer £500 million.

Another spectacular success is Joseph Lewis, a currency and art dealer living in the Bahamas, who has risen from 52nd place to joint 8th with £1,000 million. Britain's wealthiest man remains the food packaging magnate Hans Rausing who has a wealth of £2.880 million. Mr Rausing, born in Sweden, shared the honour last year with his brother Gad, who co-owns the successful drinks container company TetraPak. As Gad has moved to Switzerland, and therefore no longer lives and works in Britain, this

excludes him from the British survey. Only 38 women feature in the list, led by

thd Queen at joint 26th place with a reported £450 million. The survey, published tomorrow, is the eighth annual analysis of rises and falls. The top ten are: Hans Rausing, food packaging, £2,880m;
 David Sainsbury and family, retailing, 12,520m: 3. Garfield Weston and family, food production, £2,200m; 4. The Duke of Westminster, landowner, £1,650m: 5. Sir John and Sir Adrian Swire, shipping and aviation, £1.300m; 6. Sir James Goldsmith, finance and politics. £1.200m; 6. John and Peter Moores, stores, mail order and football pools. £1,200m; 8. Gopi and Sri Hinduja, trading and finance, £1,000m; Joseph Lewis, finance, £1,000m; Viscount Rothermere, newspapers, £1,000m.

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Edwardian documentary keeps it in the family

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has harboured a lifelong grudge against the Duchess of Windsor for propelling King George VI un-willingly to the throne, precipitating his untimely death, was challenged yesterday by her grandson, Prince Edward.

Queen Elizabeth, like other members of the Royal Family and household, had been put in an impossible position by her brother-in-law's decision to marry a divorcée, and was never able to acknowledge publicly the existence of the former Wallis Simpson in any way, the Prince said.

The Prince was attending the preview of a two-part documentary on the Windsors that he has written and presented, to be screened later this month. He answered questions on why the programmes almost entirely ig-nored the riddle of the 1936 abdication, which still intrigues historians: did the then Duchess of York, the future Queen Elizabeth, hate the upstart American?

Prince Edward said: There are all sorts of stories involving the Queen Mother which I believe are factually inaccurate. She, like every other lady in the household at the time, was put in an utterly impossible position by Edward's decision.

They were never going to be able publicly to acknowledge her in any way. The inevitable gulf that occurred

■ The Duke and Duchess of Windsor are the subjects of a new television documentary, Alan Hamilton reports

has been interpreted by people to say it was a deepseated and personal matter which, from all that I have discovered, just isn't the case." The Prince added: "None of

the Royal Family was interviewed for these pro-grammes; I did not feel it necessary to put them through that." the documentaries, Prince Edward defends his

great-uncle against the charges of some historians that he was a Nazi sympathiser or even collaborator. In the first programme he says: The Duke may have been awkward, selfish and intransigent but there is no evidence

that he would ever betray his country." He said he had found no evidence to support the theory that there had been an official cover-up over the Duke's supposed links with Nazi Germany. The Prince, having had

privileged access to George VI's private diaries, nevertheless makes it clear that the Duke's meeting with Hitler in 1937 caused dismay in London. King and govern-ment were furious that the Duke had undertaken the mission, albeit in the hope of persuading Hitler against war, without giving warning in order that he might have been better briefed and ad-



The Duke and Duchess in Berkshire after the war

that, for all his faults, the Duke of Windsor was utterly loyal and merely laughed when a Spanish emissary acting for the Nazi German regime suggested that Hitler would install him as pupper king of a conquered Britain. with a crown on his head and a swastika on his car.

The documentary details farcical attempts by German and Spanish agents to keep the Duke in Spain during the early years of the war, when he wanted to sail for the Bahamas to take up his post as governor.

Ramon Serrano Suner, Spanish Interior Minister in 1940-42, tells the Prince in the series: 'Franco wanted to keep him here because we thought he would be an English king more favour-ably disposed to Spain. On the other hand Hitler thought he could manipulate him so he could instigate a revolution in England."

The Duke's obsession with minutiae played into the hands of the enemy agents. Unwilling to leave for the Bahamas without his best bed linen, he sent a maid to occupied France to retrieve the sheets from their Paris house. The maid was captured by German agents and held along with the pillowcases in the hope that the Windsors would miss their boat. They caught it. □ Edward On Edward will

be shown on ITV at 10.45pm on April 23 and 30.



Prince Edward and the Gerald Broclehurst portrait of Duchess of Windsor

THE true Edward's the Duke of veteran televis. Desmond Wilcox ilton writes). Three years ago Wi. given a tour of the Win home in Paris, restored b.

present owner. Mohammed Fayed. Determined to make a film on the Windsors in exile, Wilcox approached Prince Edward with the suggestion that he might like to write and narrate the programme. The Prince immediately agreed.

What has raised the status of this particular programme is that it is an important story from recent history, being shown on the sixtleth anniversary of the abdication," Prince Edward said yesterday.

The programme's real origins will do little to dispel criticism that Ardent Productions has ridden unashamedly on the back of its royal connections, despite the Prince's declarations when the television company was set up in 1993 that it would stand on its own two feet. He is joint managing director with Eben Foggitt, a former BBC TV drama executive. His next major project is a documentary about Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Other programmes have included an edition of the motoring programme Top Gear for the BBC and Annie's Bar, the poorly received

Son explains why he ended patient's pain

AN ELDERLY cancer victim died after her son gave her a massive dose of medical heroin "to ease her agony". Last diamorphine I could give her night the man called for new and she was completely restlaws to allow mercy killing as ed. in no more pain." police investigated the death.

Alice Rowbottom, aged 80. was unable to eat, drink, move or speak without crying when her family saw her last Wednesday at North Manchester General Hospital. Her son Derek said: "I knew my mum would not leave me like that if. I was in agony."

His mother as on a drip of diamorphine (pharmaceutical heroin) to counter the pain "so I kept pressing the button on the pump to administer more intravenous drugs. I just wanted to keep her out of pain and let her pass away peacefully. I don't think she even knew who I was at the end."

Mr Rowbottom, 44, from Ashton-under-Lyne, said: "The diamorphine was being pumped into her stomach through a box. I had seen another patient in a corridor with one of these boxes and he showed me the pump booster button. When no one was looking I pressed the button on my mum's box so the drug would go in as quickly as possible. I asked the nurse for more because she was still in pain, then I emptied the new supply as quickly as I could.

The nurse saw me doing it then asked me to stop, but I wouldn't. She called the sec-

A MAN who gave away urity men and the police and I

The next day Mr Rowbottom was contacted by the hospital and told his mother's condition had deteriorated. She was dead by the time he

didn't administer any more.

My mum had taken all the

arrived at her bedside. "The following day the police came to see me and said they understood there was a high level of diamorphine in my mother's blood and they wanted to ask me about it. I told them, 'Look I know what I've done and I would do it again'. I know she would have done the same for me if I had been in her situation. I sat down with my mum and I said I'm sorry. I just wanted to help her. There was nothing else I

could do. "If what I have done helps change the law or helps anyone else, then that is good. I want the law changed to make things easier for patients and relatives of patients to end their suffering."

Mr Rowbottom's wife Jennifer said: "The law is crazy. I would want Derek to do the same thing for me in that situation.

A police spokesman said that Mrs Rowbottom's death had been reported to the coroner, who had asked for an investigation. No arrests had



Alice Rowbottom and her son Derek: police called

Man who 'dispensed' cannabis goes free

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH SCOTIAND CORRESPONDENT

cannabis to chronically sick people in a Scottish fishing port escaped a jail sentence when the judge learnt of his care for his sick wife. Martinus Van der Lee. 50. was sentenced to three years' probation yesterday after he admitted supplying and possessing the drug.

Van der Lee started giving cannabis to his wife, Kathleen, who was seriously injured in a car accident five years ago, to ease her suffering. The crash had left her with a mental age of 8, violent shakes, a speech impediment and severe mood swings. Van der Lee claimed his wife's shaking stopped and the mood swings eased.

The former merchant navv chef was open about what he was doing and word spread in Peterhead, Grampian. He started giving the drug free to the sick and dying. It was used to alleviate cancer, multiple sclerosis and glaucoma.

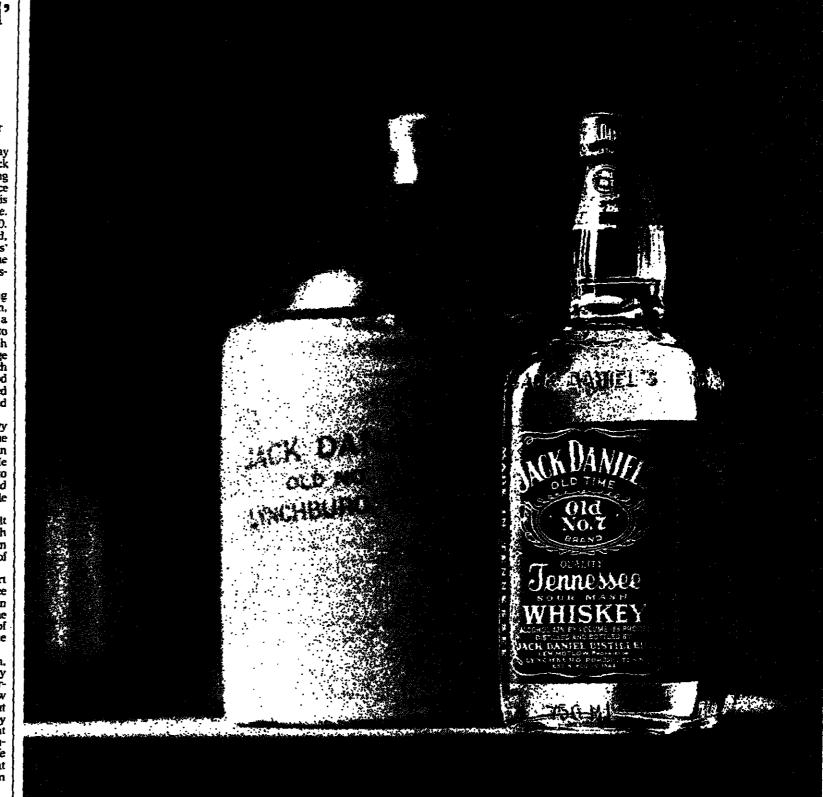
His activities came to a halt when police caught him with 1.5kg of cannabis in his car. In total, he had £10,000 worth of the drug in his possession.

Yesterday in the High Court in inverness, Van der Lee admitted illegal possession and being concerned in the supply of several kilos of cannabis throughout the Highlands and Islands.

The judge, Lord Johnston, told him: This is a very

difficult case. I can understand your motive and I follow what you were trying to do but I cannot condone it. Normally l would send you to prison but in these very special circum-stances, and taking your wife into account. I believe what you did was more stupid than wicked."

Later, Van der Lee said he would cominue rolling cigarettes for his wife but they would be made from tobacco. "This is the end of my involvement in drugs. I have been given the opportunity to stay with Kathleen and I won't let the judge down."



If you'd like to know more about our unique whiskey, write to us for a free booklet at the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee USA,

NO ONE KNOWS for certain why Jack Daniel labeled his prize whiskey "No. 7."

Some say it was his lucky number. Others say it was his seventh recipe. One story has it that, early on, a young clerk marked a batch of Mr. Jack's whiskey with the number 7 for bookkeeping purposes. Folks started writing the distillery to order "more of that No. 7 brand." The real reason why our whiskey is called Old No. 7 remains a mystery. But after a sip, there's no mystery why folks still order it.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY









BY TIM JONES

A BUSINESSMAN who defended his country home against attack by stone-throwing youths from a nearby council estate had his conviction for common assault and criminal damage overturned

westerday. I David Verney, 54, jumped into his Range Rover and drove out of his mosted home to chase two youths after he heard the sound of breaking glass in his greenhouse, Gloucester Crown Court was told. Mr Verney, a property developer from Uckington, near Cheltenham, threatened

to report the boys to the police but instead found himself in front of Coleford magistrates in January. They gave him an absolute discharge, but ordered him to pay costs of £200 and £40 compensation to one of the boys to replace a ripped football shirt.

Mr Verney, whose wife Barbara is a magistrate at Cheltenham, won his appeal against conviction when Michael de Navarro, QC, the Recorder, stopped the case. He said that Wayne O'Shea, 14, the alleged victim, and another boy, aged 13, had given conflicting evidence on which no court could convict.

Payout to vandal overturned He awarded Mr Verney costs for the magistrates' court and appeal hearings. The court was told that Mr

Verney, a former army and Gloucester county rugby player, caught up with the boys, grabbed one by his shirt, marched him across to another group and demanded to know the names of the others. A police officer to whom the youths complained said that she went to Mr Verney's home but could find no damage to his greenhouse. She described his anitude as obnoxious. Later, another officer found two broken panes and some stones.

She has ruled for as long as most of us can remember, yet we know her scarcely at all.

As the queen approaches 70, the award-winning writer William Shawcross investigates the enigma at the heart of Britain

News Review — The Sunday Times tomorrow

Schools may reject pupils if parents oppose discipline

By David Charter, education correspondent

SCHOOLS are to be allowed to turn down pupils whose parents refuse to accept policies on discipline. Gillian Shephard said yesterday.

The Education and Employment Secretary is also planning legislation in the autumn to give schools the same powers as the police to detain children. This would end the right of parents to stop schools from using detention beyond school hours as a punishment for unruly children.

Mrs Shephard, in a speech

to the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers in Glasgow, promised laws to force parents to take more responsibility for the behaviour of their children. There would be sharper penalties for the parents of persistent truants, and those whose children have been expelled twice could lose their right to choose a school.

She refused to say what the penalties for parents of truants

might be, but government advisers have called recently for parents to be fined or lose state benefits if they cannot teach their children to behave. "Some of these measures will be possible through new guidance," she said. "In other areas legislation will be necessary and we will provide it."

The Labour Party said last week that it would allow schools to suspend pupils for a term. In an apparent attempt to match this pledge. Mrs Shephard indicated that she would allow schools to exclude pupils for 45 days at a time instead of the current maximum of 15 days a term.

She said: "Without an order-

ly atmosphere in the classroom, effective teaching and learning cannot take place. Teachers should not have to put up with violent pupils who disrupt lessons." Later she said: "We need to

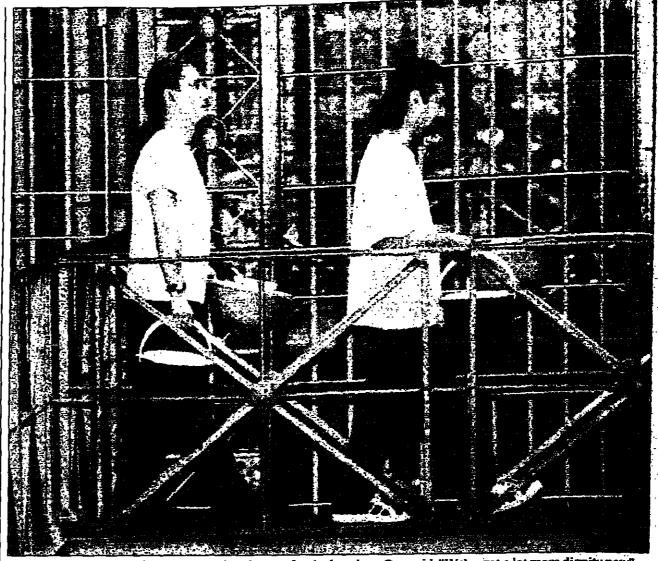
later she said: "We need to look at linking parents' wishes with requirements for good, acceptable behaviour. The majority of parents are supportive to schools and their children, but where they are not there needs to be a reminder of their responsibilities."

der of their responsibilities."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the union, welcomed the recent attention to school discipline from Labour and the Conservatives but said that tougher measures were needed years ago. Last year a survey found that as many as 15,000 youngsters were being expelled every year.

The union favours more

pupil referral units, or "sinbins", to rid classrooms of unruly children. "Everyone asserts the child's right to an education, but I would challenge that." Mr de Gruchy said. "If they break their contract with a school they should forfeit that right. No one wants to send these children into limbo, but I do not want my members and the majority of children to remain in hell because of disruptive pupils."



Inmates at Armley prison in Leeds slopping out for the last time. One said: "We've got a lot more dignity now"

From April you must get into this routine

Jump to it, the first Self Assessment tax year starts on 6th April 1996. From then on, if you usually receive a tax return form, you'll need to make a record of your income and expenses.

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They include bank and building society statements, dividend vouchers, business earnings and receipts, payments to employees or sub-contractors, cashbooks and any other documents that could relate to your tax. Filing these details as you go along will make it easier to fill in your first new-style Self Assessment tax return in April 1997.

How to avoid penalties.

There will be a clear timetable setting out what you have to do by when. Keeping to the right dates for sending back your tax return and making payments will mean you avoid interest and penalties.

Read the leaflet in your next tax return

To find out more, look out for the special leaflet on Self Assessment we've included with your next tax return.

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Inmates slop out for the last time

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

INMATES at Armley jail ended a prison ritual yesterday when they slopped out for the last time.

Ann Widdecombe, the Prisons Minister, was in the Leeds jail to mark the completion of a £60 million programme to install sanitation in cells in 135 jails in England and Wales.

The drive to end slopping out, a target of penal reformers, was only six weeks short of a deadline recommended by Lord Woolf in 1991. Until he recommended speedy action to end the practice, the Home Office had not expected slopping out to end in jails until the next century.

the next century.

Glenn, an Armley inmate, said integral sanitation had improved morale for everyone. He added: "Before, you had to make sure you had been to the toilet before banging up time because after that you had to use the bucket and slop out with everyone else the

next morning. Now we've got our own toilet and sink. It's much cleaner and we've got a lot more dignity."

Since 1991 more than 20,000

toilets and washbasins have been installed in 96 institutions. Some cells at Armley have both. In other parts of the jail three cells have been turned into two with a bathroom in the centre.

Miss Widdecombe said the

prison service had "reached a milestone in history". She added: "One of the prisoners just said slopping out is prehistoric and he is quite right."

Ironically Victorian prisons had cell sanitation but much 3

Ironically Victorian prisons had cell sanitation but much of it was ripped out this century to provide more space for prisoners. Stephen Shaw, of the Prison Reform Trust, said: "They missed their target by six weeks but this is still a remarkable achievement."

Victim's pain, page 8

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Overhaul of mental care urged by charity

By Adrian Lee

THE mental health charity SANE yesterday called for an overhaul of community care legislation after a series of crimes involving former patients. The Mental Health Act needed updating to protect patients and the public, Marjorie Wallace, the charity's chief executive, said.

Far too many mistakes were being made under the current laws, introduced 13 years ago, Ms Wallace said. SANE is seeking new criteria on the discharge of mentally ill patients, and more involvement in the process for their families. The group also wants consideration given to the feelings of victims.

Ms Wallace said: "Because of all the headline cases involving a minority of violent patients, everyone who is mentally ill is finding it harder to be accepted into the community." SANE, which handles 1,000 telephone calls a week from people seeking help, is to extend its support service and

support for its campaign.

Ms Wallace said that in the
past year there had been 24
mishandled cases that had
resulted in inquiries.

employ a lawyer on cases. It will write to every MP to seek

Lawyers told to cut down on sentences

By PETER FOS

THE legal profession, master of the sub-clause and the 60-word sentence, was told to get to the point yesterday by the Plain English Campaign. It condemned words such as "aforementioned" and "hereinafter" as old-fashioned and

cumbersome.

Chrissie Maher, the campaign's director, said: "Lawyers are frightened to say what they mean. People need to be able to understand what has been written on their behalf. It's nonsense to say that everything has to be written in fancy English."

The campaign has produced a book, Language on Trial, to help lawyers to overcome the urge to write jargon. "With respect to" shrinks to "about". "for the purpose of" becomes "to" and "at this point in time" is "now".

is "now".

Richard Thomas, director of public policy at the international law firm Clifford Chance, said that lawyers were no longer quite the windbags they once were. However, he added: "Too many lawyers write to impress others inside the profession. Good legal writing should not look as if it is written by a lawyer at all."

Steady on, take a drink

By NICK NUITALL

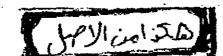
IT MAY not be news to some darts and snooker players, but scientists have found that alcohol helps to steady the

Researchers from Birmingham and Edinburgh universities suggest that up to four units of alcohol is the magic amount for keeping hand tremors under control — although "next morning someone might shake more than before"

The findings, disclosed at the Edinburgh Science Festival, suggested that as an alternative, tectorallers could put their hands under running water from the cold tap. This had improved the aim of Olympic pistol shooters, and helped to improve life for people suffering from diseases such as Parkinson's.

The study measured the hand tremors of thousands of people. In religious groups, Church of Scotland ministers were found to suffer more than nuns or muslims.

Medical students and general practitioners emerged as the slice of the population with the shakiest hands. Journalists and eye surgeons, thankfully, had low tremor scores.



John Prescott claims to be upwardly mobile. Eight social commentators measure his progress Labouring the point: just what is a class act?

John Prescott, the no-nonsense voice of the Labour Party, yesterday announced his defection to the middle classes. In an unguarded moment he told Radio 4's academics, social commentators and

endeavoured to find out just where Mr Prescott, former merchant navy steward, Today programme: "I can tell you, I'm pretty middle class." Yesterday The Times ences and assess Mr Prescott's position.

barriers were breaking down.

"Of course they are, my dear,"

she replied. "Otherwise I wouldn't be talking to you."

Yesterday she said: "Nobody

cares about class any more. You can be anything you like these days. I think it is dreadful because people have

As far as I am concerned someone of good class is someone who keeps their

word, is charming and be-

haves like a gentleman. But England is so rude. We have

lost the majesty of smartness, people are so scruffy and even

the Royal Family are not as

She said she still believed

royal as they might be."

such appalling manners.

BEING working class is no longer a badge of honour in Labour Party politics, according to Ben Pimlon, Professor of Politics at Birkbeck College and biographer of Harold Wilson Once Labour MPs could not resist mentioning their grandparents' workingclass roots. But the move away from that is symptomatic of the move towards American-style politics. In America the middle-class is the equiva-

lent of our working class."
Professor A.H. Haisey, author of Social Class and Educational Opportunity. said: "Of course John Prescott is middle class. You have to

the last time

define class by people's present position. But that doesn't mean that he can forget that his origins lie soemwhere else. The same applies to about a third of the population. We need a more subtle definition of class which recognises that duality."
One Labour MP, at least, is

still proud to be working class. Ken Purchase, a former toolmaker and now MP for Wolverhampton North East, said: "Maybe not by income, but by attitude I am definitely work-

Dame Barbara Cartland was once asked in a radio interview if she thought class

> herself "very much upper class". Her household addresses her with her title. Her fellow novelist, Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, said: "I have always thought John Prescott to be rather upper class, with his Jaguars, double-breasted suits and holidays in Barbados. I think it is wonderful he has said this. Next thing he will announce he is voting Conservative."

Tony Parsons, presenter of the BBC2 programme Parsons On Class, said: "It just proves that there is no longer any shame in admitting you are middle class. If John Prescott claimed to be working class it



Beer bottles to the fore, John and Pauline Prescott enjoying the glitz of a comedy awards presentation evening

on of the people, it would

make him a hypocrite. "He has two homes and earns nearly £40,000 a year: he is middle class. The class you were born into isn't necessarily where you stay. The middle class covers such a broad spectrum now, from Mr Patel at the corner shop to a barrister.

Michael Young, a sociolo-gist and director of the Institute of Community Studies, said: "Mr Prescott would not be regarded by many as pukkah middle class because he was born into a working-class family, but under tradi-

tional guidelines, since he was jobs, but in the 1950s it was the not a manual worker, he could call himself middle class.

Forty years ago Labour MPs would have been stressing their working classness. Now things have moved the other way and they are more inclined to call themselves middle class.

*Class was always something that was in people's minds. It is a subjective notion and if someone says they are working or middle class who is going to say otherwise? Generally the working and middle classes were defined

by manual and non-manual

working classes who saw themselves as the real workers, the bedrock of the country. They were proud of it and actually saw themselves as to non-manual superior workers. "Over the past few decades

there has been a decline in the number of manual jobs and an increase in jobs in the service industry which has eroded boundaries and made the picture more confused. People might be on very low incomes - such as parsons but they would still categorise themselves as middle class, so

we cannot use pay as a yardstick. It comes down to what people think they are." Ivor Spencer, who runs a

school for butlers, said: "The class system certainly exists and we will never have a classless society in Britain. How ever much money you have there are still clubs you can't get into. There is a themand-us situation."

He said that he knew people, with "new money", who employed a butler to give the appearance of belonging to a higher class. "You can't buy class, it is soemthing you are

Education is the key to social position

By Stephen Farrell

ADVERTISERS, famous for their division of the popula-tion into alphabetic and numeric classes, would summarise John Prescott as an aspirer.

an aspirer.
"Middle-class is broadly meaningless," said Paul Tivy, group chief executive of the advertising agency Bates Dorland. "The most important determinant of behaviour is educational background rather than disposable псоте.

'Yes, we would classify him [John Prescott] as middle-class by his purchasing habits, his house and car and the fact that he persisted with his education. But attitudinally I would have thought, before today, he would shudder at the idea of being middle class.

John Prescott epitomises the good old-fashioned Labour Party Socialist in a party more and more overtly middle class under Tony Blair."

Social class definitions: A Professionals: chartered people; high-ranking service

B Those with a large amount of responsibility, such as middle management, lecturers.

CI All others doing nonmanual jobs, such as nurses and police sergeants. C2 Skilled manual workers who served apprenticeships. D Semi-skilled and unskilled

manual workers, labourers. E Those of lowest levels of subsistence, such as pensioners and the unemployed.

The Prescotts' constituency house in Hull The 11-plus failure who worked his way up decks

JOHN PRESCOTT was the eldest of five children and attended Brinsworth Primary

The family lived in rented accommodation until he was II when his parents bought their first home, which was in

After leaving school in 1953 he worked as a trainee chef in hotels for two years, joined the Labour Party in 1956 and went to work on passenger shipping lines scrubbing decks in 1955 before becoming a steward.

When he returned to dry

land he was sponsored by Cheshire County Council to Study for a diploma in eco-College, Oxford. He went on to Hull University where he gained a BSc in economics. He became an MP in 1970, sponsored by the National

The deputy Labour leader had left school without any qualifications. He went to a secondary modern in Ellesmere Port, having failed the

His two sisters and two brothers, who were younger,

member, taught needlework.

Mr Prescott bought his house near the village of Sutton for £28,000 in the early 1970s but it is now valued at around £100,000.

He drives a second-hand Daimler, spends most of his holidays in the Caribbean, with his wife Pauline, a former hairdresser, whom he married in 1961. She is a fulltime housewife and MP's wife. They have two sons.



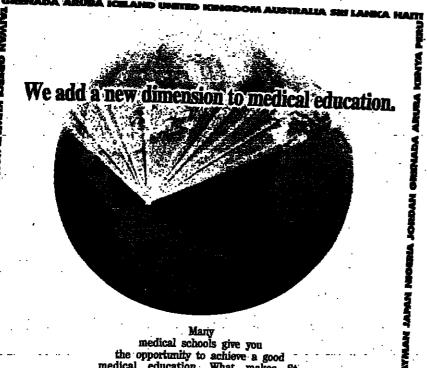
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Psychological Society conference told of first study into long-term effects of accident on children

Suicide and illness haunt survivors of sea disaster

REPORTS BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

sea disaster in Greece eight years ago are more likely to have considered suicide or suffered mental illness than classmates who remained in Britain, according to one of the largest studies of adolescent disaster survivors.

Of 400 pupils rescued from SS Jupiter. a cruise ship that sunk in a Greek harbour in 1988, more than two thirds have suffered mental illness and 52 per cent had posttraumatic stress disorder, the British Psychological Society annual conference in Brighton was told yesterday. The schoolwork of survivors suffered and they were three times more likely than their peers to become depressed. One survivor took her life and 9 per cent of her companions

have attempted suicide. The Institute of Psychiatry study shows for the first time the long-term effects of such a disaster on children. The find-

CHILDREN who survived a with survivors, now in their early twenties, and a group of their peers. Stephanie Boyle, a research-

er at the Institute of Psychology, London, said: "A lot of mothers reported 'a child of mine went away and I got back an adult'. The children returned with a feeling that the world was dangerous and serious. They were much more cynical and worldly wise. The loss of innocence is quite notable because they were

relatively young." Survivors told researchers: "I don't really trust anybody any more, I don't believe what people tell me." Dominic O'Ryan, Ms Boyle's colleague, said: "Some no longer plan for the future because they feel the future can be cut short."

The SS Jupiter had just set sail from Piraeus harbour with nearly 400 English child-ren aged 14 and 15 on board for a week-long educational cruise. The liner was rammed

DEPRESSION

Adige, rapidly took on water and sank within 40 minutes. Four people died — a pupil and teacher from Birmingham and two Greek seamen. The Medical Research Council is paying £300,000 for three years of research into the longterm effects on survivors.

Although all the children were offered counselling, fewer than a fifth accepted. Of 158 interviewed, 14 per cent had suffered post-traumatic stress disorder with a materials. disorder with symptoms in-cluding flashbacks, panic at-tacks and avoidance of anything related to the trauma.

Julie Nurrish, a researcher, said results showed a delay of a year or more in the academic studies of those survivors in higher education. They are not fulfilling their potential." ☐ The police misunderstand the rave culture, believing ravers to be young innocent victims rather than willing participants, according

College of Higher Education psychologists who interviewed four police officers and four ravers. The police see others involved with the rave scene as largely consisting of drug dealers and those who organise and otherwise make, a profit from rayers.

Ravers see themselves as

rational, acting through choice but outside mainstream society, which they perceived as hostile and ignorant of rave. This is important because, to police raves in an effective and humane manner, the police need to understand the culture they are dealing with," the researchers said.

Serial killers usually murder their first victim close to home, psychologists from Liverpool University said. There is a certain amount of impulse involved in all these crimes, even the most deliber-ate." More serial criminals have burglary on their records

Victim's pain, page 8

than sexual crimes.



Survivors from the SS Jupiter leaving a rescue ship

Today's Caveman pays high price for macho style

MALES with high levels of testosterone fare worse at school, often opt for a life of crime and are more likely to have a broken marriage by the age of 40. Psychologists have found that chauvinism, sexism and aggression - Cave-man values - are thriving in Britain just as they flourished in primitive societies.

Caveman values are more prominent among delin-quents, rapists and men who drink and drive, use alcohol and drugs, have more sex but use fewer condoms and are unsympathetic to women who victims of sexual

There are still plenty of New Men, however, who agree that "there is too much emphasis on men being tough", "women do not necessarily go for macho-looking males" and "a romantic dinner with your partner is preferable to drinking with the lads".

New Man is probably a is in a job with the fire brigade and the Army. New Man works in an office, in management, or studies psychology, nursing, sociology or social studies. As men get older, they mellow from Caveman into New Man, possibly as a result of education, mixing with women and realising that, in modern society. Caveman val-ues are antisocial and linked to failure.

Caveman believes that it is necessary to be physically and emotionally tough to achieve manhood, which includes not backing away from physical confrontation. not crying, withstanding pain without complaint, approval of male initiation ceremonies and dis-

approval of men who fail to

Research by the University of Central Lancashire found significant numbers of men approved of statements such as "real men don't give up because of fear," and "men who take part in yoga and ballet deserve to be ridiculed They also agreed that wifeswapping is fine as long as

John Archer, an evolution ary psychologist from the university, told the conference.
They all reflect the notion that manhood is an acquired, rather than an ascribed, status which must be earned by courageous action." His study involved 600 men aged 17 to 45 from the Preston area of Lancashire.

Cavemen are most prevalent in the Army, among the unemployed, amateur soccer players and manual workers including joiners, labourers and drivers. Caveman values were found in uniformed jobs automobile breakdown services and police, engineering and building and masculine sports including American football, rugby and weight

in aggressive sports, enjoy objects and believe men should be able to hold their drink. "It can be argued that at the root of all this is the notion of proving to others and ones

Ostracism is feared more than beating

BEING sent to Coventry is worse for children than being physically bullied, according to a study of 200 junior and secondary school pupils aged 8 to 12. Those who were psychologically excluded by their peers felt more de-pressed, lonely, anxions, dissatisfied and worthless than those who were being beaten.

Children and their teachers physical victimisation as the most harmful form of bullying but it may have fewer long-lasting effects, according to psychologists from

Keele University. Studies have shown that children who were socially excluded by their classmates grow up to be depressed, anxious and shy. Boys thought the worst type of bullying was being shunned

BULLYING

by other children while girls thought it was being physical-

Girl bullies tended to prefer psychological techniques against their victims, including sneaking behind their backs, methods that boys also adopted as they grew out of punching and kicking each

other. A tenth of children in the study in North Staffordshire were being bullied.

☐ Domestic violence can be predicted by rainfall, according to a study of three years of records from London. Nondomestic violence increases when the weather is warmer. psychologists from Nottingham University discovered.



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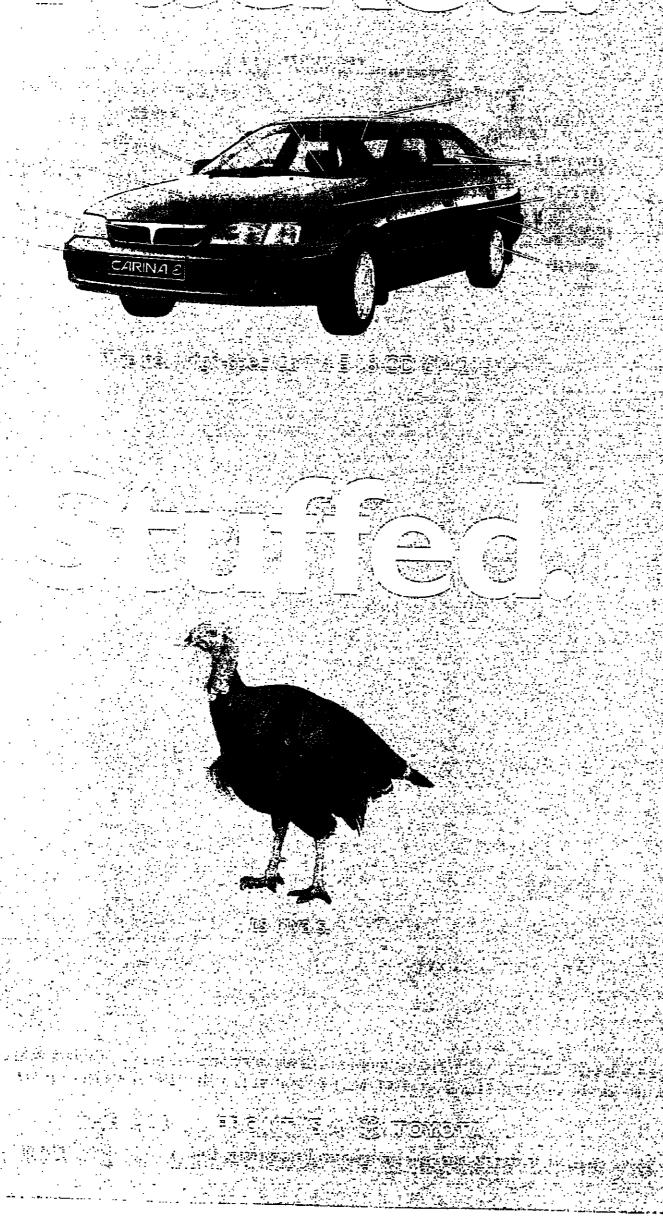
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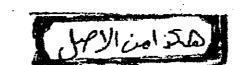
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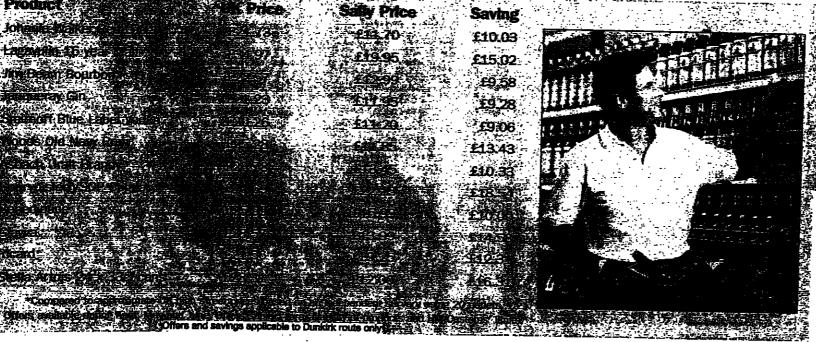
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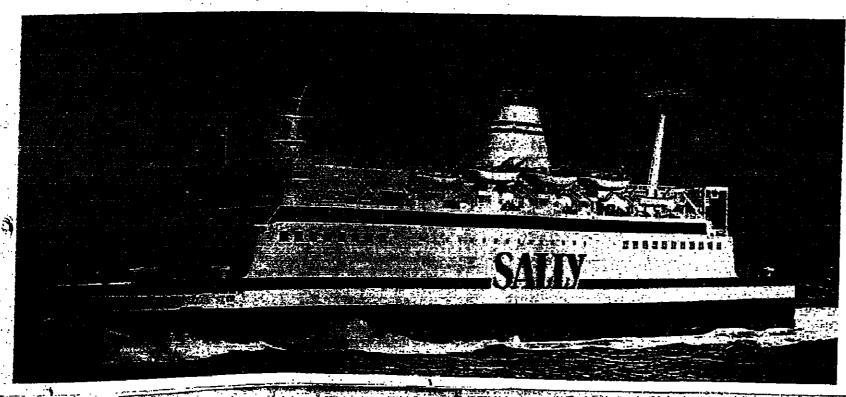
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Taylor rejects plan to link jail term and victim's pain

THE Lord Chief Justice launched a fresh attack on Michael Howard's sentencing proposals yesterday, condemning minimum jail terms as an unwelcome American import. Lord Taylor of Gosforth also spoke against the belief that ever-longer prison sentences would be better for the public and victims of crime.

Lord Taylor unveiled his own proposal to reassure victims of crime. He said that the judiciary should consider the victims' interests when imposing sentences on convicted criminals.

He said police should provide prosecutors with a report of the impact of crimes on the lives of the victims. The prosecution would then be able to put the effects of the crime to the judge for consideration before sentences were passed.

However, Lord Taylor said that the suffering of victims could not be allowed to dictate the length of sentences. He added that it was "quite wrong" to believe that longer and longer sentences would somehow be better for the public and would help to curb

He told the Today programme on BBC Radio 4: The notion that if you sentence longer and longer and longer it's going to be better quite wrong. The public has people are rehabilitated and, course, they should



Lord Taylor: condemned ever longer sentences

be punished appropriately.

"But the idea that because a particular victim has suffered very severe injuries, let us say, there must be absolutely com-parable injury or detention on the perpetrator is. I think.

inappropriate. Later, in his first public comments since a government White Paper announced minimum sentences for repeat burglars and drug dealers and automatic life sentences for second-time sex and violent offenders, the Lord Chief Justice reopened the argument between the judiciary and the Home Secretary over sen-

He described minimum sentences, a key part of the Government's plans to deal with offenders who commit several domestic burglaries and dealers in Class A drugs, as an "importation from the American legal system which we can well do without".

Although his speech to a

made no mention of Mr Howard, it was clear that the Home Secretary was his

target.

He said that to treat crime solely from the point of view of victims risked looking at the system "through the wrong end of the telecope". Lord Taylor spoke against making the "highly fashionable error" of viewing the criminal justice system primarily as a matter

The typical reaction of most of the population was that sentences were too lenient. Lord Taylor said. A recent survey by the Nuffield Foundation had found that half the public thought that 50 per cent or fewer convicted rapists were sent to prison, when in fact the correct figure was 91

With the Government and the judiciary preparing to argue the merits of the White Paper proposals, Lord Taylor conceded that sentencing was a matter of acute public con-cern. He welcomed debate on the subject as entirely healthy in a mature democracy, while emphasising that it should be an "informed" argument.

Mr Howard's White Paper predicts that 12 jails will have to be built to cope with the minimum 10.800 increase in prison population resulting from his tough new sentences. Lord Taylor told his audience that "in the current stampede to build new prisons", he hoped the continued funding for Victim Support would not he forgotten by the Gov-



£3,000 for the first card of Christmas

A PROOF copy of the world's first Christmas card fetched £2,990 at auction yesterday. An American collector bought the 1843 card, which sparked an industry worth £300 mil-

lion last year. It shows three generations toasting the health of an absent friend, a scene criti-cised by some Victorians for encouraging drunkenness. The message reads: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You."

The card was designed by John Calcott Horlsey for the reformer and educationist Sir Henry Cole. Sir Henry had L000 copies printed to send to family and friends.

He kept only two proof copies. In 1865 he sent one to his daughter Henrietta and the other, inscribed "The first Christmas card", to Lady Dorothy Nevill who was related to Horace Walpole.

Lady Dorothy, a distinguished hostess, author, gardener, painter and collector. died in 1913. The card was among a collection of her memorabilia put up for sale yesterday at Christie's by a descendant.

Also sold were two locks of hair from the head and beard of Edward IV. An American buyer paid £517 for the two lots, taken from the king when his tomb in Windson was opened in 1789.

☐ A unique block of ten Penny Black stamps, ranked among the world's top ten rarities, is being offered for sale at £300,000. The block was issued on May 6, 1840, the date of the introduction of stamps. It will be the centrepiece of the Stamp 96 Exhibition at Wembley Conference Centre this month. The sale is being handled by Stanley Gibbons.

NEWS REPORT

Inquiry into fatal slide accident

The death of a three-year-old who caught her neck between the top of a slide and a metal support has prompted an urgent investigation into the slide's safety. Amy Grieveson died on Monday, six days after the incident.

Her mother, Kirsty Dock-ing, 24, of Newcastle upon Tyne, called on the Early Learning Centre to stop selling its large slide, saying it was unsafe because the support bars were immovable. Ian Duncan, the firm's chief executive, said he was urgently seeking more information about the incident before deciding whether to withdraw

Polar freeze-out

Pen Hadow, from Dartmoor, abandoned his attempt to walk solo to the North Pole from Ward Hunt Island, Canada, after breaking a ski and a ski-pole six days into his 486mile trek. An aircraft is to fly him off the ice cap.

Actress banned

Letitia Dean, the former East-Enders star, was fined £750 with £50 costs and banned from driving for 30 months by Tower Bridge magistrates after she admitted driving her sports car on March I while double the legal alcohol limit.

Attacker foiled

A woman whose car broke down in north London used an aerosol oil spray to fend off a man who attacked her with a knife. He stabbed her arms and hands but fled when she sprayed WD40 in his face.

Drop of ice

A 60lb block of ice that fell 10.000ft from an aeroplane embedded itself in the ground by the home of Gerald and Jean Redfern in Hulland, Derbyshire, under the Manchester airport flightpath.

Beef blocked

The Ministry of Defence is to withdraw ration packs from an Anglo-American exercise in North Carolina because they might contain products that could be construed as breaching the ban on beef exports.

Ferry grounded

The Belgian-owned North Sea car ferry Prins Filip ran aground outside the entrance yesterday morning, leaving 335 passengers stranded for three hours while the tide rose.

Clean away

Thieves have stolen an outdoor lavatory being exhibited by a Russian at an art show in Limerick. Irish police fear the lean-to, which has been shown around the world, may have been taken for firewood.

Crear

Death holds no sting when we serve our God

Richard Harries

There is a devastating by Wilfred

"O Jesus Christ" one fellow sigbed. And kneeled, and bowed, tho' not in prayer, and died. And the bullets sang "In

Vain" guns chuckled Machine Big guns guffawed "In Vain".

The refrain that all is in vain runs through the rest of the poem. It is not only the prayers of soldiers but their cries to their parents and their calling out to their loved ones that are all

equally uscless. It is a pessinism as bleak as that in the Book of Ecclesiastes, where the whole cycle of life and death is pro-

nounced vanity. In contrast to this pessimism. so widely shared in the 20th century, there stands the extraordinary confidence of I Corinthians xv.

which will be churches this first Sunday after Easter and which is one of the finest passages in English literature. Paul

asserts that at the consummation of the whole evolutionary process, everything will be changed, the perishable will put on the imperishable, the mortal will put on immortality. Then, as though he were standing dancing on the grave of death, or mocking it like any world heavyweight champion before a major

where is O death, where is thy sting?"

"Death is swallowed up in

fight, he proclaims:

Then, affirming that this victory has been given us in Jesus Christ, he goes on: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain." What extraordinary, comforting words these are, that

our life's work, when it is

"in the Lord", is not in vain.

Somehow, all the genuine

good that we are able to do will be gathered up and preserved for all eternity. read at funeral services, as they so often are, few will be able to share Paul's conviction about the Resurrection of the Dead, which is the theme of this whole chapter. For we know that the body decomposes and become part of the whole cycle of nature. We cannot imagine

ourselves climbing out of

graves like figures in a tanley Spencer painting. What we can believe as Christians, however, is that though the darkness may close in on us at death. God's knowledge of us does not end at that point. We remain known in his mind

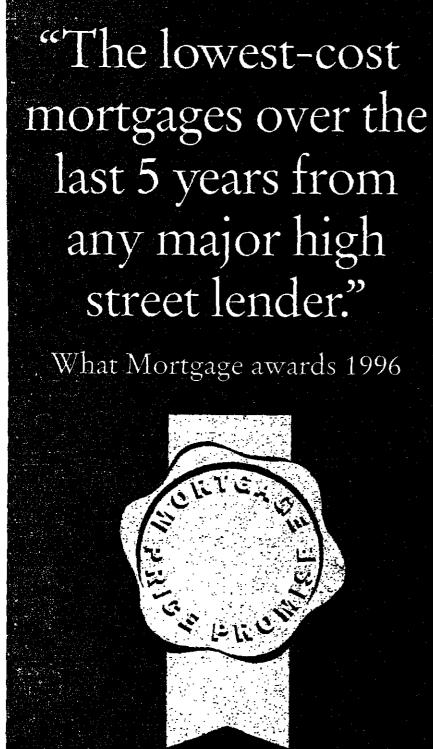
and cherished in his heart. We have very lit-tle idea about who we really are. Am I my true or 99? Orly God knows. And what God knows, our true self, will be reformed or reclothed in a manand nothing can destroy or take

away from our life lived in him. Much perhaps most of what we think important about ourselves, will no doubt drop away, being of little significance in the light of the standards of the Kingdom where the last shall be first and the first

B the Lord", that is work that is in accord with his will of love, all that is in union with Christ through faith and prayer, all this has a future in God. We have absolutely no idea about the conditions in which this hope will be realised, though our best human experiences might give us some guesses, but this hope is fundamental to Christian teaching. We should give ourselves permission to be liberated by it, so we may indeed abound in the work of the Lord.

☐ The Right Rev Richard Harries is Bishop of

> At Your Service Weekend, page 13



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RECORD SWINGS

HOME NEWS

Prescott challenges Major to have 'the courage to face Labour' and let the nation decide now

Tories stunned by huge margin of by-election defeat

ARTHUR LEATHLEY

MANAGE PROPERTY.

Ciron

ath holds

Conservatives had braced themselves for defeat in the Staffordshire South East by-election, but the mar-gin of defeat - 13,762 votes has shaken the party.

The victory by Labour's Brian Jenkins, who captured the seat with a swing of 22 per cent. delighted John Prescott, the party's deputy leader, who yesterday challenged John Major to hold an immediate general election

The Tories were unprepared for the scale of their defeat. During the final days of canvassing. Jimmy James, the Tory candidate, was telling all listeners that victory was within reach; but his party colleagues were briefing journalists to expect a defeat of about 5,000 votes,

By the eve of polling, the defeatist message appeared to have filtered through to Mr James, when he emphasised that the seat held by his party since 1983 should not be considered a Tory heartland but a marginal.

The defeat was especially galling as the Tories had fielded one of the most impressive candidates of recent byelections and had fought the strongest contest since the last general election. Alan Duncan, the Tory MP for Rutland and Melton, proved a ferociously energetic "minder" to Mr James and was tireless in



Jenkins and grandchild Emmeline Saunders

contest on the ground as they have had in recent clashes

with the Conservatives. But while there was less evidence of the bitterness towards the Government that had dominated other recent. by-elections, Labour strategists were confident throughout that Conservative voters were switching in droves to back Tony Blair's party.

Mr Jenkins may not have been the most sparkling campaigner, but he was well known as leader of Tamworth Borough Council and was supported by a cavalcade of national Labour politicians. including Mr Blair, who made three visits to the constituency.

Yesterday his deputy was celebrating with party workers in the Midlands constituency. "If the Tories want to, the best way of testing [their Mr James and was tireless in support is to have a general giving Labour as tough a election," Mr Prescott said.

the courage to face us? If he thinks he is going to win a general election, let's have it. It's up to him and we are ready and waiting.

He said the constituency: voters had caught the national mood: "The people of southeast Staffordshire said. We don't believe you anymore. We've had enough. We feel betrayed and it's time you were out'.'

Mr Jenkins said yesterday that the 13,000-plus majority had been beyond even his most optimistic assessment. The Tories can use as many excuses and as many reasons as possible, he said. The simple fact is that they got

thumped by the people."

However, Mr James blamed his defeat on several factors: Liberal supporters using a protest vote to back Labour, many Tory voters staying at home, and the "feelgood" factor not yet reaching people's pockets. He also pointed out that the defeat was not as bad as the nearby Dudley West by-election in

"I thought we had a good chance of winning this seat," he said. "I am obviously disappointed but I respect the decision of the voters. I think the new seat of Tamworth is extremely winnable at the next general election."

John Redwood, page 20 Leading article and Letters, page 21



The gap between Labour's Brian Jenkins and other candidates was evident at the count from baskets of votes

Making the most of the swing factor

LABOUR's sweeping by-election victory in Staffordshire South East brought the party its second largest post-war swing, 22 per cent. Only Dudley West in 1994 bettered it with a 29 per cent swing away from the losing Conservatives.

Labour claimed yesterday's result was the bigger triumph, which could not be dismissed as a mid-term protest but which pointed towards deeper Tory disaffection. "This is a crippling result for a Government that knows that a general election may only be months away," one Labour figure said.

Before Dudley, Labour's biggest post-war swing had been the modest 12 per

from the Tories in 1989.

However, the two main parties were yesterday using carefully selected snippets of by-election history to bolster their hopes of victory at the next general

Euphoric Labour leaders were comparing the Staffordshire result to the Langbaurgh by-election in November 1991, five months before the last general election, in which Labour took the Conservative seat with a swing of 3.6 per cent. Strategists, contrasting that with yesterday's 22 per cent swing, said it underlined the mountain the Tories must

climb to win back the seat.

Democrats in March 1991 on a 24 per cent swing in the wake of public anger over the poll tax. They won the seat back in the following general election. In 1986, the Conservative seat of Ryedale was lost to the Liberal Alliance but was won back as Margaret Thatcher's Government swept to a 100-seat majority at the 1987 general

Before the 1983 general election, the Thatcher Government suffered few byelection reverses. However, it did lose the Glasgow Hillhead seat to Roy Jenkins of the SDP/Liberals in March 1982, then went on to secure a resounding 140-seat majority in the general election in May of

Balancing act allows Mr President to please rival leaders

BILL CLINTON obviously likes and approves of Tony Blair. But the President has to work with John Major, possibly for another year - and after a rocky start, he has come to respect the Prime Minister and enjoy a reason-

able working relationship. So the White House has engaged a careful balancing act over the visit of Mr Blair to Washington. At the same time on Thursday evening as

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Hillary Clinton was having a friendly and at times animated 20-minute chat with the Labour leader at a private reception, Mike McCurry, the White House press spokesman, was delivering a deliberately even-handed message about good relations with Mr Major to the reporters travelling with the Labour leader.

The same themes were reiterated yesterday when Mr Blair visited the White House. All this was a carefully coordinated exercise between the White House, the British embassy in Washington and the Labour leader's office. This twin-tracked approach

makes political sense as a balance of preference and

necessity. Not only does Mr Clinton have to deal with Mr Maior, but relations are genuinely better than they have been. Resentments caused by the intervention of Tory party officials in the 1992 American campaign are now seen as in the distant past. if not forgotten. More to the point, the differences of 1993 over Bosnia and Northern Ireland no longer exist. There is close agreement about the deployment of Nato forces at present, rather closer than there might be with a Republican president. There have been no complaints from the British side about the White House's cool treatment of Gerry Adams since the end of the IRA ceasefire.

Mr Clinton and Mr Major also see eye-to-eye on reducing trade barriers across the Atlantic, the Middle East and the present uncertainties

caused by elections in Russia. To emphasise their closeness. British officials point out that the two leaders are meeting in Moscow in a week's time. These are the necessities of

international diplomacy. Politics is different - and the warmth of the greeting offered by President Clinton. and by Mrs Clinton's decision to meet Mr Blair, are clearly intended as friendly signals of political allies. The interest

ter in Waiting. Mr Blair has at times appeared stunned by the degree of interest and by the warmth of the reception. It may not win any votes but it shows how political expectations are changing in Washington as well as at home.

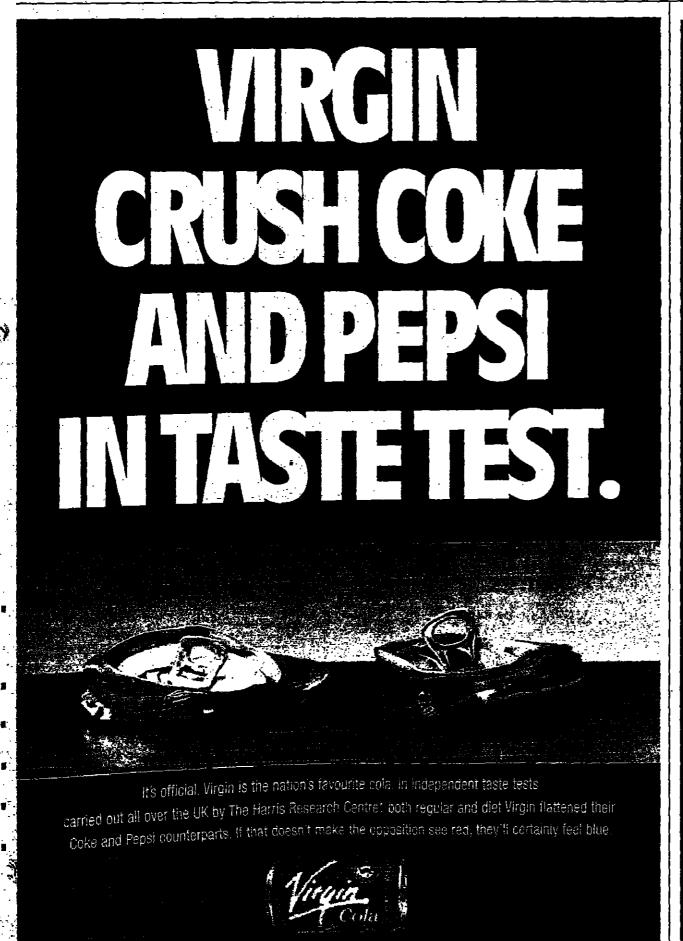
shown in Mr Blair's visit by

the business and media elite is

because he is now regarded in

America as the Prime Minis-

Peter Riddell



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Managing your money for the longer term

Letters help to unlock the enigma of Elgar

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

SOME 750 letters by Edward Elgar, in which the composer discusses masterpieces such and the thrill of being praised by Richard Strauss, are to be sold at auction.

The correspondence, which includes 200 unpublished letters, spans his working life. It was sent to his publishers. Novello, in whose archives it has been stored, and is being sold by an anonymous

It is the most important collection of Elgar's letters to be offered at auction, and will be sold by Sotheby's on May 15. Stephen Roe, head of Sotheby's book department, "It is an astonishing survival. Elgar was a really great letter-writer. He wrote from the heart, so honest."

Dr Simon Maguire, music manuscript specialist at Sotheby's, said: This represents the ultimate Elgar collection, covering the conception. composition, preparation. publication, distribution, performance and reception of all his major works. It is immensely characterful."

The correspondence is not easy to read because Elgar. who lived from 1857 to 1934. often used abbreviations. But his prose is often jokey, and there are drawings, including caricatures of himself.

The earliest letters date from the 1890s, when he



Elgar: liked to joke and draw caricatures

tentatively asked Novello if he "might submit" an overture for your inspection with a

view to publishing it". In a letter of May 23, 1902, Elgar describes the acclaim he received after the German premiere of Gerontius, some months after a disastrous performance in Birmingham, partly marred by an underrehearsed orchestra strug-gling with a difficult work. "I understand the thing was a triumph. But I feel rather dazed at the success ... Richard Strauss, who never speechifies if he can help it. made a really noble oration over Gerontius . . . and it was worth some years of anguish - now I trust over - to hear him call me Meister." Mr Roe explained: "It had taken Elgar ages to be recognised in Eng-land as someone who was of

On August 24, 1910, the composer penned a note asking whether the Austrian-born maestro Fritz Kreisler would be interested in performing his violin concerto in America. "It will never do to have it hacked about by the sort of creatures who play in the States," he joked.

The following spring. frustrated that his composing was not going well, he threatened to terminate his contract with Novello and give up music. "I am now well on in years and have to consider a 'move' and make a new home - under the depressing state of my music I have to reconsider this entirely and shall probably go abroad or to a cottage in the country and leave the musical world entirely." But Elgar had a change of heart and remained with Novello for 15 years until a dispute over the rights for the American publication of Gerontius.

Hugh Cobbe, music librarian at the British Library, said:
"We are watching the sale closely. But funds here are terribly restricted. If I could raise the money. I'd go for them like a shot.



The high life: William Davidson's Climbing Party, from about 1882. Davidson is third from the right. Below are Unter-Théodule Glacier and Climbers, left, photographed by William Donkin in 1879, and Summit of Mont Blanc, by Edward Whymper, from about 1894





Victorians scaled the heights of fashion

Isra rocki Leba

By DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

PHOTOGRAPHS of Victorian mountaineers almost 150 years ago, in cumbersome dresses or tweed suits and deerstalkers, have been rediscovered in an archive in the East End of London.

The original prints and glass-plate negatives dating from 1850 give a unique record of the intrepid Victorians. The British, however illequipped for the elements, were the first to popularise climbing in the Alps. The photographs show them with ice-axes, walking sticks and hob-nailed boots.

The photographs are to be published by Atlas Limited Editions, specialists in historical photography. Half the 34 images have never been published before; most of the others were last published as long ago as the 1930s.
Taking the photographs

was no easy feat. The equip ment weighed up to 451b and the glass plates were about lit 6in by 2ft. To take the equivalent of a modern roll of film, the photographs could need 25 guides and porters.

The glass-plate negatives were developed on the spot. There were many accidents. including the one in which four of Edward Whymper's colleagues fell to their deaths while roped together on the Matterhorn.

The photographers included the Englishman William Donkin, known as the father of Alpine photography, and the French Bisson brothers, who took the first pictures of Mont Blanc. Chamonix and Zermatt are barely recognisable from the ski resorts they have become today.

The photographs were unearthed from an archive owned by the Alpine Club, founded in 1857 for "the promotion of good fellowship mountain climbing and exploration throughout the world, and of better knowledge of the mountains through literature, science and art. Chris Bonington will open an exhibition at the club, in Charlotte Road, Shoreditch, running from Thursday until May 17.

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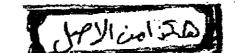
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Hezbollah's Katyushas batter Jewish town for second day

Israelis step up rocket attacks on Lebanon targets

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S war with Islamic fleeing north after a threat by extremists in Lebanon intensified yesterday and threatened to draw in other Arab nations after Israeli helicopters hit a Syrian military position in

Witnesses said three Israeli helicopters fired rockets at a Syrian anti-aircraft position near Beirut's international airport, in the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital.

Several Syrian soldiers and civilians were reported wounded in the attack, as Israel apparently tried to strike near a mosque of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party

of God), the target of its raids. Ambulances were reported racing through the city, as the streets emptied, with some observers describing the scene as reminiscent of the civil war in Beirut from 1975-1990 which destroyed the once beautiful

Syria has 35,000 troops in Lebanon as the country's main power broker. Israel is holding Syria responsible for allowing Hezbollah to continue rocketing communities in the northern region of the Jewish state. The danger of bringing Syria more directly into the conflict was beightened further after Israel's campaign extended into the Bekaa Valley eastern Lebanon, where Syria has troops. Thousands

to shell the entire

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, pledged: "We are not looking to hurt civil-ians and we have called on them to leave their villages [in the areal." Four civilians were killed and seven others in-

US issues plea to militants

Washington: The White House arged Herbollah to avoid unnecessary provocation but had no response to yesterday's Israeli retali-ation (Fom Rhodes writes). "We are trying to work towards a resolution," said an official, who said contact had been made at sadorial level in Syria. Israel and Lebanon.

jured during the Israeli attacks on the area yesterday before the evacuation began. Artillery fire was said to be heaviest in the Israeli selfdeclared security zone of south Lebanon, particularly in the villages of Sohmor and

reported wounded in earlier Israeli air and artillery strikes helicopter raids in the Shia Muslim southern suburbs of Beirut reportedly wounded at least another five.
The latest Israeli actions, the

second strike against Hez-bollah targets in as many days, came after guerrilla fighters with the militant Islamic group fired another barrage of Katyusha rockets. Israel hit back immediately at the suspected sources of the rockets in south Lebanon and Mr Peres said there would be further retaliation after more civilians had left the area. He was speaking during a visit to Kiryai Shmona, one of the Jewish towns struck by the Katyusha rockets. A woman was seriously injured when

her car took a direct hit. Mr Peres, who was accompanied during his tour by General Amon Shahak, the army chief of staff, said: Hezbollah must understand that it can get nothing using force against Israel." General Shahak accused Hezbollah of a cowardly attack by waiting until Israelis had left their bomb shelters yesterday morning before rocketing the northern region.

In Damascus, hopes were fading last night for a diplomatic breakthrough at a summit due to be held today between President Assad of Syria and his Lebanese coun-



Israelis fix firing mechanisms on shells at a Lebanon border base yesterday

'It is easy to reach Beirut, but difficult to leave it'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AS ISRAELI missiles pounded the sprawling Shia Muslim slums of Beirut yesterday for the second time in 24 hours, the Israeli Government was reminded of the dangers inherent in stretching its arm of revenge

Writing in Tel Aviv's biggest-selling newspaper, Yediot Ahronot, Nahum Barnea, the leading columnist, delivered a sober note to accompany the cuphoria of carefully orchestrated government announce ments about "smart bombs" and other hi-tech weapons.

"All the wars in Lebanon began

well with videotapes of exploding headquarters and videotapes of our planes returning safely to their bases," wrote Barnea, a commentator who recently lost his 20-year-old son in an Islamic suicide bomb attack in Jerusalem. "The problems occurred later . . . Experience teaches us that while it is easy to reach

Beirut, it is difficult to leave it." The note of caution was delivered amid ominous signs on both sides that the escalating Arab-Israeli violence of the past two days could soon spread, possibly dragging in Syria or Iran and jeopardising the frail Middle East peace process.

In Israel, Major-General Amiram Levine, the hardline head of Israel's Northern Command, issued a warning that the return of Israel to an attack-profile not seen since the early days of the 1982 Lebanon War could last for another two weeks. Speaking after meeting leaders of local councils, who live within rocket range of Hezbollah militants in southern Lebanon, the general said: "I told them that patience and fortitude is needed."

The fear among residents of northern Israel was most clearly demonstrated in the soulless town of Kirvat Shimona, where nearly half the 23,000 inhabitants fled out of rocket range in buses and cars.

Fuelling the sudden escalation is the fact that in less than two months election in which security is the key issue. "One should not ignore the fact that these incidents are occurring about 50 days before the elections," observed Haaretz, the Hebrew daily paper. "No Israeli Government can exist so long as there are protests against it in Kiryat Shimonal

From the Arab side, the entirely predictable response to Israel's ninehour air attack on Thursday - more rockets targeted on Kiryat Shimona and other places - was followed by more ominous warnings about the conflict spreading well beyond Israel's northern border.

A group known as the Organis-

intelligence experts as a nom de guerre for the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, claimed responsibility for the explosion at the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires four years ago and issued a warning that the resumption of air raids on Beirut would provoke more suicide attacks in Tel Aviv and against Jewish and American targets worldwide.

Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, the Hezbollah leader, said: "The response to the air bombing of Beirut will take place at a different place. and we will choose the time and place. When we carry this out, it will stun Peres" (Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister).

Bomber blows off legs

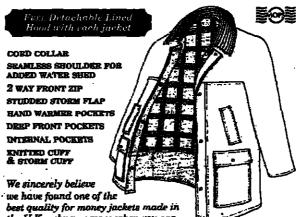
questioning a man who blew off his legs and right hand as he was preparing a bomb. ripping apart the Jerusalem hotel where he was staying

(Ross Dunn writes). "It was either a bomb or some kind of explosive materials," Arieh Amit, Jerusalem's police chief said. Nobody else

man's life was not in danger and he was still conscious when police brought him in. It was not clear whether the suspect was a would-be suicide bomber. Publication of

his name has been banned. The charge exploded in the Lawrence Hotel on Salah El-Din Street, the main thoroughfare of east Jerusalem.

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Australians will hit key to die

Doctor prescribes death by computer

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN DARWIN

A DOCTOR in Darwin is about to launch a computer program that could soon become the Australian way of

The program will allow the terminally ill to take their lives by pressing the return key on a laptop computer.

Phillip Nitschke, who called on an Alice Springs computer expert to help develop the program. will offer the software to patients when the Northern Territory's euthanasia Act comes into force on July 1. He will connect the subject to a syringe driver that will, in turn, be linked to the laptop. The screen will issue a series of commands, involving up to ten separate prompts. Finally the patient will be asked if he or she wants to receive a lethal dose that will render them unconscious and kill them seconds later.

The patient will determine when the plunger is pressed by the syringe driver and not the doctor." Dr Nitschke said.

"That's quite important. I don't know any doctor who'd really want to press the sy-ringe himself. We have to see this as voluntary euthanasia and it's essential that the individual is controlling it."

Dr Nitschke is no stranger to controversy and is largely shunned by the medical establishment. He works in a tiny office on a Darwin industrial estate and also attends to the needs of drug addicts. It is not the most attractive of venues for the terminally ill to end their days and he admits that finding the appropriate location could cause problems. He has thought of hiring a motel room, but expects protests from the hotel and tourism

But Dr Nitschke is passionate about the cause. He be-lieves the voluntary euthanasia Act, which was passed by the Northern Territory parliament last year, will legalise something that has gone on behind closed doors. What

this does is bring it out into the open and make it available to all." he said. "I've seen people die such horrible deaths while they've been waiting for a starting date to be announced, so it will be a blessed relief for all when we can do this

While the formal guidelines for voluntary euthanasia are still in draft form, the final decision will have to be sanctioned by two doctors after they have assessed the mental and physical state of the patient. The Church and pro-life lobbyists fear that the law will make Darwin the death capital of Australia, if not the world, attracting hundreds of terminally ill people to the

Northern Territory.
Dr Nitschke is meanwhile stacking his shelves with barbiturate in preparation. "It's a drug that is used for anaesthetising animals and humans," he said. "And, if you use a large enough amount, for putting them to death."



An artist's impression, leased by the Pentagon in Washington yesterday, showing Libya's suspected chemical weapons installation at Rabta. William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, last week did not rule

Libyan 'nerve-gas' plant

could become the target of a pre-emptive American attaken from spy satellite pho-

entrances below terraces cut deeply into a remote, desert hillside. Libya, denying that it is building a nerve-gas

factory, says the excavations are part of a desert irrigation project. Yesterday Tripoli unexpectedly offered to open the site for international inspection and to begin talks with Washington to allay its suspicions. (AP)

US agrees to close base in Okinawa

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE rape of a schoolgirl by three American servicemen on Okinawa made its mark on American foreign policy yes-terday as Washington announced plans to close one of its four military bases on the island and proposed further reductions in forces before President Clinton's trip to Japan next week.

A symbolic flashpoint for Japanese unease about the regional presence of 47,000 American troops, Okinawa is still smarting from the rape of the 12-year-old girl last Sep-tember which provoked pro-tests on the island and questions in Japan about the postwar presence of so many foreign troops. The three servicemen were sentenced last month to prison terms in a

Pentagon officials said last night that America had also agreed to return "substantial" land, amounting eventually to one-third of American military property on Okinawa, to

Revlon success rubs off on rival

FROM QUENTIN LETTS

IT IS eye pencils at dawn for-two of the world's biggest cosmetics manufacturers. In dispute is an advertisement for foundation in which Cindy. Crawford, the model, claims that the make-up will collect

off on her boyfriend's collar.
The advertisement has been a great success for Revion, which has seen sales of its Color-Stay products rise sharply. Procter & Gamble protested that it was not possible to have a make-up that did not rub off. Such a claim might be suitable for allweather paint or creosote butnot a beauty treatment.

In the advertisement Miss Crawford nestles against a man's white collar. Magically, she leaves not a smudge. Sceptical Procter & Gamble executives decided to test her: claim. They hired 293 women who applied Color-Stay to their faces. The women were handed white fabric and toldto "rub" with vigour.

Their finding: the Revion make-up that does "not rub off" does, in fact, rub off. The fabric was smudged.

After legal threats, Revion and Procter & Gamble have accepted an adjudication from the Council of Better Business. Revion, which argued that the women in the experiment were rubbing with undue harshness, has agreed to alter its advertisements. Miss Crawford will still say her piece, but there will be an addendum to the effect that you should not expect the foundation to stay in place if you rub too hard. Revion now recommends the pressure a woman might use when caressing someone's face".

Procter & Gamble continues to argue that Color-Stay may. not stay on if a woman gives her man a properly loving embrace; the company has introduced a rival product. Cover Girl Continuous Wear, marketed as being "transfer



Crawford: nestles against boyfriend's white collar

Epidemic threatens Florida's sea-cows

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

SCIENTISTS on Florida's west coast are working overtime trying to save the state's best-loved creature, the

manatee. The mammal, which is an endangered species, has been hit by a mysterious epidemic that has claimed 22! lives this year, surpassing the 206 deaths recorded in 1990, previously Florida's worst year for manatees. In the past month, a pneumonia-like disease has claimed 120 victims, and more are dying daily. Marine biolo-

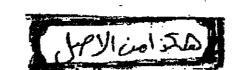
Manatees, also known as sea-cows, are one of the largest sea mammals. They feed on plants in shallow waters and can reach 3,000lb, living

for 50 years. The West Indian manatee. which makes its home in the warm Florida waters during the winter, had been making a comeback. Just two months ago, a state survey counted a record 2,639 manatees. However, at the rate at which they are dying, Florida's entire manatee population would be wiped out in two years.





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Lloyd's ready to improve offer to names

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Our City Editor on power takeovers

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WORKING WEEK 27

'Godfather' who relishes a taste for catering



SPORT 41-48

Why Ray Wilkins refuses to pass the buck

THE HIDDEN ASSETS OF C&W Page 27

TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY APRIL 13 1996

Lloyd's ready to improve offer to names

By SARAH BAGNALL

LLOYD'S of London is confident of lifting its settlement offer above E3 billion, enabling it to reduce the burden of losses that have fallen on "honourable" names who have paid their debts to the

society.
Negotiations with potential contributors to the settlement package, which currently stands at £2.8 billion, are still under way but sources close to the insurance market believe that the sum will be increased by at least £300 million.

A large number of names are angry that they have consistently paid their losses to the market but are worse off under the settlement offer than those names who avoided paying their cash calls.

Names who joined action groups in order to litigate will still be deemed "honourable" if they have paid their losses. The total number of names that fall into this category is not known but it is believed to run into several thousand.

The anticipated reduction in many names' bills is the result of the combined effect of the extra funds together with the prospect of a reduction in the arrount of money names will amount of money names will have to pay to Equitas, a new reinsurance company that is being set up to take over names liabilities relating to

risks insured before 1993. Last month, Lloyd's sent out indicative statements to its 34,000 names, providing them with estimates of how much they will have to pay to settle finally all their debts with the society.

Lloyd's has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years and the settlement package is an attempt to end a mass of legal actions taken by names.

The indicative statements were based on the assumption that the Department of Trade and Industry would require names to inject £1.9 billion of extra funds into Equitas. This sum is now expected to be reduced to nearer £1.5 billion.

Having taken account of names' reactions to the indicative statements. Lloyd's has identified several groupings to whom it wishes to make a better offer. They include names who cannot meet their final bills to the market.



New leaf: Dieter Bock is intent on divesting Lonrho's mining interests and concentrating on other activities

Germans intensify bid battle for C&W

By Eric Reguly

merger agreement with Ca-ble and Wireless after the disclosure that Deutsche Telekom, Europe's biggest phone company, is considering bidding for C&W.

The disclosure, made in Frankfurt by Joachim Kroeske, Deutsche Telekom's finance director, is the first official indication that BTs plan to merge with C&W may be challenged. Other large phone companies and consor-tia are thought to be considering a bid for some or all of C&W, whose interests range from 80 per cent of Mercury Communications to 57.5 per

cent of Hong Kong Telecom. One financial adviser said: These companies would be negligent if they didn't look at Cable and Wireless. Every serious phone company has to have a presence in the Asia-Pacific market and in the UK. the telecoms hub of Europe."

BRITISH TELECOM is Similarly, with C&W in Telekom, which is to be company with an instant base has an obligation to strike the best deal for shareholders. Although BT is the logical partner, C&W would have to give serious consideration to all takeover proposals. The Government has given no indication that it would use its golden share in C&W to block

foreign takeover. BT has been trying to strike a deal with C&W since late last year. The structure of the proposed merger has been broadly agreed, but the two companies are thought to be far apart on valuations. They are likely to disclose early next month whether they are to proceed with formal merger

negotiations. Mr Kroeske said that Deutsche Telekom and C&W "are involved in sensitive, pre-exploratory talks. But there have been no official discussions." He added that Britain was a strategic priority for Deutsche

under pressure to strike a play, the board of directors privatised in November. The English market is a dominant market in Europe through which a lot of [telecoms] traffic streams are routed. We are of the opinion that we want to be present in this region, alone or with partners."

Shares in C&W closed up 9p at 535p on the news that Deutsche Telekom was a potential bidder after touching a

high of 546p. BT's shares gained 12p to 3712p. Before Mr Kroeske's com-ments, the speculation was that Deutsche Telekom was interested only in Mercury Communications, which BT would have to sell if it merged with C&W to avoid a monopolies inquiry. Deutsche Tele-kom is also pondering a bid for Videotrom, the cable company put up for auction by its Canadian parent. Videotron.

with cable-telephony rights in

the City and Westminster, would provide the German

telecoms service.

Analysts and financial advisers said a bid by Deutsche Telekom is possible but unlikely partly because the company is saddled with debts of almost DM100 billion, C&W has a market captitalisation of about £12 billion and the takeover premium could add billions to the price tag.

More importantly, it is highly unlikely that Deutsche Telekom would be able to merge with C&W through a reverse takeover. In such a deal. C&W would issue new shares to take over the much larger BT, instead of the other way around. BT proposed the reverse takeover to avoid the £6 billion-plus expense of having to buy out the minority shareholders of Hong Kong

> Hidden Assets, page 27 Tempus, page 28

Anglo **American** tightens grip on Lonrho

BY JON ASHWORTH

ANGLO American, the South African mining group, has tightened its grip on Lonrho, buying a way into a £1.2 billion pan-African mining portfolio that includes Ashani Goldfields.

Anglo American has taken in option over 18.4 per cent of Lonrho shares, lifting effective control to 28.5 per cent. The move gives it first pick at a portfolio spanning gold, coal and platinum and blocks moves by rivals such as American Barrick, Gencor and RTZ-CRA.

Dieter Bock. Lonrho's chief executive, is intent on divesting the group's mining interestsand concentrating on non-mining activities, including sugar and hotels. A proposed demerger is expected to be put to shareholders in the

The opening shots were fired last month, when Anglo paid £91 million for the 5.9 per cent stake in Lourho formerly held by Tiny Rowland. It has since lifted its stake to 7.5 per cent. The group controls a further 2.6 per cent through Southern Life, an associate company, and has now clinched the right to buy Mr

Bock's 18.4 per cent stake. The option is expected to be exercised simultaneously with the Lonrho demerger. providing eash for Mr Bock, an instant 28.5 per cent stake in a lucrative pan-African portfolio. Lonrho's interests embrace coal and plannum. and include a 37 per cent stake in Ashanti, the Ghanaian gold producer. Anglo American has been looking to expand its mining interests beyond the Zambezi.

Lonrho shares were steady

Tempus, page 28

WEEKEND



Anne Ashworth on how regulators buried their heads

Denied free shares or a payout, the losers rebel 🔂



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Brent 15-day (Jun) \$20.40 (\$20.95)

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NORTH SEA OIL

Bid approval talk boosts power shares

By Sarah Cunningham

powered ahead yesterday, driven by reports that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is to clear PowerGen's £1.9 billion bid for Midland Electric and National Power's £2.8 billion bid for Southern Electric and by expectations of further

The Department of Trade and industry confirmed that it had received the commission's report late last month. It would not say when Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, would announce his decision on the bids, but expectations were growing that it would be

takeover bids in the sector.

The less than stringent conditions reportedly at-tached to the go-ahead for

ELECTRICITY shares the bids boosted share prices.

powered ahead yesterday, The next important factor will be the prices at which the two

generators relaunch their bids. PowerGen shares closed at 562-5p, up 13-5p, National Power at 492p, up 14p, Midland Electric at 405, up 7p, and Southern Electric at 893p up 21p. Other power firms' shares also rose.

Piers Coombs, analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "We expect this will be the catalyst for another round of bids for the remaining region-al companies — London, York-shire. East Midlands and Northern." American power firms are expected to be first in line as bidders.

Meivyn Marckus, page 26 Tempus, page 28

Second refinancing in a year for NP

By Sarah Bagnall

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING (NP), the publisher of the Independent and the Independent on Sunday, yesterday announced its second refinancing in less than a year involving an equity for debt swap and the raising of £9

million of fresh funds. The funds are being injected by Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) and Independent Newspapers (IP), the Dublin

publishing group controlled by Tony O'Reilly.

In total the companies, which are Newspaper Pub-lishing's two largest share-holders, are injecting £23 million of equity into the loss million of equity into the loss-making publishing group. Of this, £14 million relates to the conversion into equity of loans made by Mirror Group and Independent Newspapers.

The balance of £9 million is new money, which will cover the group's forecast losses of £6 million for the current year.

The two companies have agreed to subscribe for a total of 85.7 million shares, at 31p a share, on the basis of one new share for every one already As a result both MGN and

IP will lift their holdings in NP from 43 per cent to 46.4 per

Prisa, the Spanish publisher of El Pais, is not taking up its rights to new shares and as a result will see its holding slip from 12 per cent to 6.73 per

The transaction follows a £20 million refinancing last summer. Mirror Group's shares closed lp down yester-

Worried investors hunt the ostrich

By ROBERT MILLER AND KAREN ZAGOR

HUNDREDS of concerned investors, many of whom have spent at least 114,000 for each ostrich acquired through the Ostrich Farming Corporation (OFC), have formed a fledgling action group to try to secure their investments.

The troubled OFC, which raised many millions of pounds from thousands of people, has been placed in provisional

request of the Department of Trade and Industry. It is the subject of an investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

Stephen Whitmore, a partner of Wilsons, a Salisbury law firm, said yesterday that he had received hundreds of inquiries relating to OFC from investors worldwide. He said that the most important was initially to establish the ownership of individual hirds. Eddy Nachtergaele, the Belgian farm-

liquidation by the High Court at the request of the Department of Trade and told The Times that he had 3,000 birds on his two farms and at five other sites. A further 800-900 OFC ostriches were being shipped from Namibia. He said that the Official Receiver seemed satisfied after his visit to the farms.

Michael Pugh, the UK's Official Receiver, plans to write to individual

Weekend Money, page 32

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Confirmed: MMC's green light for Genco bids

t was several weeks ago, on Wednesday March 6 to be precise, that The Times exclusively predicted that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was poised to give a qualified go-ahead for PowerGen's £1.9 billion takeover bid for Midlands Electricity and National Power's £2.8 billion bid for Southern. Silence reigned but, within a fortnight, the MMC requested a two-week extension of its deadline to April 4. This request, duly granted by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, was interpreted in the City as an indication that the MMC required more time to draft stringent conditions to the proposed amalgams. In the event, the MMC's report was forwarded to the DTI on March 29.

More silence until last Thursday when speculation that the MMC will give a green light for the Gencos takeover ambitions raised Midlands' quote 10p to 398p.

It is customary for the President of the Board of Trade to divulge the findings of an MMC inquiry but yesterday, courtesy of The Econo-

mist, heralded a break with tradition. The Economist let it be known that it had "obtained" a copy of the MMC's report and confirmed that the five-strong panel, spearheaded by Graeme Odgers, the MMC's chairman, recommends the takeovers by a majority of four to one.

According to The Economist, the conditions attached to the go-ahead

☐ The disposal by Midlands and Southern of their respective generating capacity within 18 months. ☐ The requirement of undertakings from the Gencos to ring fence pricesensitive information regarding contracts signed by the Recs with other generators.

☐ Licences of the merged companies to be amended to give Offer, the industry regulator, additional powers to monitor and enforce operating agreements.

The dissenting voice would appear to be that of Patricia Hodgson, the BBC's director of policy and. planning. The theme of Ms Hodgson's minority report is reputed to be that the mergers will limit competition, increase prices and discourage new entrants into the market. Other members of the panel, including Stanley Metcalle, Professor of Economics at Manchester University, David Jenkins, general secretary of the Welsh TUC and Roger Davies, a director of Airtours, take the view that although the mergers "may be expected to operate against the public interest" in some respects, these are not "sufficiently serious to justify

The majority view is that if PowerGen and National Power dispose of six gigawatts of generating plant capacity — as demanded by Stephen Littlechild, Director-General of Offer — and new firms enter the industrial market as expected, there will be "a broadly satisfactory competitive environ-

As The Times emphasised last month, the MMC's recommendations represent yet another snub for Professor Littlechild, who is pas-sionately opposed to vertical inte-



MELVYN MARCKUS

Recs. Littlechild has consistently argued that the proposed mergers would increase the market share of PowerGen and National Power and would have a damaging effect on competition — a perspective echoed by Ms Hodgson. Despite Littlechild's views, the Government has already permitted vertical integra-tion within the industry by way of sionately opposed to vertical inte-gration between the Gencos and the Power's £1.1 billion takeover bid for the PowerGen/National Power bids last November he declared: "In general, I do not believe that vertical integration is inherently objectionable, whether in the electricity industry or elsewhere. However, in these two cases, the structural change proposed could have an effect on the development of competition."

As shares in the electricity sector blazed, John Battle, Shadow Energy Minister, said the sort of things that Shadow Ministers say. In his words: This is a very serious leak of a draft document that throws into question the integrity of the relationand the Monopolies and Mergers Commission." He added: "The contents are so market price sensitive that energy companies' shares are changing hands before the Secre-tary of State makes a decision on the findings of the report."

No arguing with Mr Battle on this count. On my calculations, close on 55 million shares in the electricity sector changed hands yesterday as tion of a further round of consolidation within the sector.

It is no secret that several US utility companies, including the likes of Texas Utilities and Pacific Gas and Electric, are currently waiting on Mr Lang's statement on the MMC's findings before deciding whether to launch further forays into the UK electricity sector. Six Recs were acquired in last year's multi-billion pound takeover spree and speculation has recently fo-cused on Yorkshire Electricity, 15p higher yesterday at 898p, and Lon-

don Electricity, 10p up at 809p. Support mounted for the two Recs under the spotlight, namely Southern, 21p higher at a record 893p, and Midlands, 7p to the good at 405p. Subject to a clearance from Mr Lang, the two Gencos will inevitably return to the fray but potential rivals have made the most of the delay brought about by the referrals and the possibility of a counter bid for Midlands should not be ruled

Similarly, the belief is mounting

Manweb. When Mr Lang referred the astore took positions in anticipating the Position of the Po prove bid proof. PowerGen. 1312p higher at 562½p yesterday, is capitalised at some £4 billion, while National Power, 14p up at 492p, commands a market value of aimost £5.6 billion. Several City analysis take the view that a Transatlantic. bid for one of the Gencos may yet. materialise.

Not a good week for Littlechild. The National Audit Office has inquired into the City's reaction to the Professor's review of his distribution review and gives warning that fund managers may have been "turned off" the forthcoming Railtrack and British Energy

privatisations. Vertical separation of the Gencos and the Recs was Littlechild's gold standard for the electricity industry. The MMC cruelly points out that a merged Genco and Rec "would be a more effective international competitor, partly through increased size and partly because it would possess a wider range of skills and

Abbot on dividend list

ABBOT Holdings, the reshaped oilfield services company, formerly known as Unigroup, reported pre-tax profits of £3.88 million (1994: £364.000) for the 15 months to December 31. The results include a 612month contribution from KCA Drilling, its main subsidiary. Earnings were 3.2p a share (0.7p). There is a final dividend of 1.12p and a special dividend of 0.56p. There was no dividend in the previous year.

Redland offer

Redland, the building materials group, has increased its hostile takeover bid for Ennemix, the aggregates company, by nearly £1 million to about £6.7 million and declared the offer final Ennemix investors are offered 35p a share, 3p higher than Redland's original bid. The shares rose 3p to 36p.

Fujitsu grows

Fujitsu, the Japanese electronics company, is creating 100 new jobs at its factory in West Belfast.

Briton chosen to head Ford's rescue of ailing Mazda

FROM ROBERT WYMANT IN TOKYO

FORD has stepped in to rescue Mazda, the ailing Japanese Japanese car manufacturer, and installed a British businessman to oversee the

Henry Wallace is expected to take over as president in late June, when he will become the first foreigner to head a major Japanese company since the Second World War.

Mr Wallace, 50, will succeed Yoshihiro Wada with the immediate task of restoring the company to profit after three successive years of losses. Mazda reported net losses in 1993 and 1994 and is not expected to show a profit when results for the most recent fiscal year are announced. Ford is to spend £326 mil-

lion to increase its shareholding in Mazda from 25 per cent to 33.4 per cent, and will have a greater say in the dayto-day management.

closer relationship will serve as a shot in the arm for the financially weak Japanese carmaker, in spite of a recent revival in Japan's domestic market, Mazda sales have declined while the strong yen has eroded its exports.

The expanded tie-up will enable the two companies to co-ordinate product development, manufacturing and vehicle distribution, and to improve competitiveness through greater economies of

For the struggling Japanese carmaker. Ford's resources will be of major importance in expanding its research and development programme. Meanwhile, Ford is seeking to expand its share of the Asian market and is particularly anxious to penetrate the Chinese market where it lags behind General Motors.

Some analysts believe Maz-Industry analysts said that a da's competitors have reason

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to fear the enhanced partnership. If Mazda's technology is combined with Ford's design capacity this will improve Mazda's chances of seizing a bigger share of Japan's saturated domestic market, which

will intensify competition.

Mr Wallace joined Ford of Europe in England in 1971. He moved to America in 1983, from where he was promoted to controller at Ford of Mexico in 1986. He returned to Britain in 1989, becoming treasurer of European operations before being made president of Ford's Venezuela company in 1992. Mr Wallace, who studied economics at Leicester University, was confirmed as executive vice-president of Mazda in June 1994.

Ford has been working closely with Mazda since the 1960s, forging a stronger relationship after becoming a substantial shareholder in



Henry Wallace, who becomes Mazda's president in June

Pensioners swell public coffers

By Karen Zagor

NATIONAL SAVINGS contributed a record £5.25 billion to government funding in the financial year just ended.

The strong performance was attributed largely to a decision announced in the last Budget by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to reduce the age limit to 60 on Pensioners Bonds and to lift the maxiPensioners Bonds remained popular in the month, with net contributions of £578 million, followed by Premium Bonds at £203 million and Fixed-Interest Savings Certificates at

Investors with Bonds now qualify for Pensioners Bonds and are allowed to transfer their in-

the matter at the meeting on

Tuesday, but back rebel share-

holders in a vote against a

motion to elect Robert Studer

as the next chairman of UBS.

Peter Thorne, banking ana-

yst at Paribas, said: "I do not

think UBS can climb away as

John Leonard, banking analyst at Salomon Brothers, said

the rejection meant "people

easily as all that."

UBS faces stormy time

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

FIREWORKS are expected at next week's meeting of stock-holders of Union Bank of Switzerland, the country's biggest bank, after it rejected the offer of merger talks with CS Holding, a rival.

CS Holding, parent of the Credit Suisse bank, said this week that it felt the matter was one for shareholders, not management, to decide.

ulation yesterday that CS Holding would not only raise

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Employee 'cake' grows

THE average British employee is getting a bigger slice of the company's annual turnover, according to an analysis of 289,000 company accounts by Dun & Bradstreet, the business information company. During the past three years of audited accounts, employees' remuneration has increased from 25.4 per cent of annual turnover to 28.7 per cent. Other key ratios identified by Dun & Bradstreet as signs of recovery include a rise in average dividends to shareholders. from 4 per cent of annual turnover to 4.5 per cent. Return on capital by companies has increased from 31.3 per cent to 37.8

Price wrangle hits deal

GEC ALSTHOM, the Anglo-French engineering company, has abandoned plans to sell 28 locomotives to China because of disagreements over price. Bernard Pons, France's Transport Minister, said: "The Chinese said they were too expensive. They are going to buy elsewhere." The announcement was made on the third day of a trade visit by Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister. The largest deals concluded were for oil and gas, with Elf, the French petroleum group, sealing a deal worth \$130 million to supply oil and Sofregaz securing a \$50 million contract to supply gas to Shanghai.

US data mixed

THERE was mixed news on the American economy yesterday with a faster than expected rise in consumer prices but a weaker than anticipated reading for retail sales. US consumer prices increased by 0.4 per cent in March after rising 0.2 per cent in February, the Labour Department said. The closely watched core rate, which strips out volatile food and energy costs, rose 0.3 per cent in March after rising 0.2 per cent in February. Separate figures from the Commerce Department showed that retail sales rose only 0.1 per cent in March compared with 1.9 per cent in February.

Clark profits step up

SHAREHOLDERS in C&J Clark, the family-owned Somerset shoemaker, will be unable to sell out for at least another three years, in spite of hopes of an earlier stock market flotation. Clark, Britain's second-largest private company after Littlewoods, has seen off two attempts to force a flotation but is committed to float by May 1998. Pre-tax profits rose 26 per cent to £24.8 million in the year to January 31, fuelled by profits on property and pension holidays, and footwear earnings remain "quite unsatisfactory". A second interim dividend of 3.9p a share makes a total of 7p (6.5p) a share for the year.

mum holdings to £50,000. vestment March was the first They made a net contribution month this was allowed and of £2.3 billion. Premium bonds about £90 million came from brought in a net £1.5 billion in such reinvestments. Pensionthe year. ers Bonds pay a fixed, guaran-In March, National Savings teed annual return of 7 per had gross sales of £1.59 billion. cent over five years.

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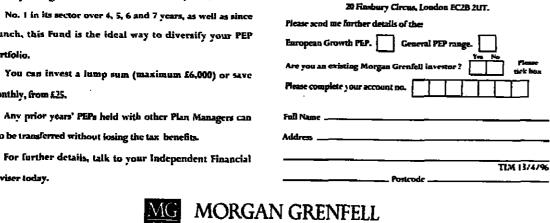
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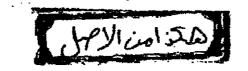
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A WORKING WEEK FOR: MARK MASSARELLA

'Godfather' relishes family taste for catering

Jon Ashworth meets the MD of an Italian ice-cream dynasty with a belief in horses for courses



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Massa-German sausage on the menu in

department stores across the UK, just as the nation commemorated the anniversary of the first doodlebugs landing on London. An earlier German promotion was launched on the day the Bundesbank failed to support Britain in the exchange-rate mechanism. His timing left a lot to be desired.

Mark's father, Ronnie, made a similar gaffe in his role as manager of the British showjumping team. He de-clared on television that he would sooner pick men over women riders because they withstood the pressure better. What's more, you could have a drink with them and give them a "good bollocking" How to endear yourself to half the nation . . .

Horses and meals just about sum up **6** People travel the Massarellas, who more and have began selling ice-cream to northerners, and proceeded cosmopolitan to build one of the UK's bigcatering

Hamleys, on Regent Street, and you will have the Masserellas to thank for it. Most of the House of Fraser in-store cafés and restaurants fall under their control. Mark, 44, is managing director of Massarella Catering Group. which employs 1,800 people, and made a pre-tax profit of £2.1 million on turnover of £35

million last year. The foundations were laid in 1860 when Mark's grandfather, Giovanni, set out from Italy with his family bound for a new life in America. "Rumour has it that they were on stopped off in South Yorkshire to visit friends, and really fell in love with the place," says Mark, sounding every bit the Yorkshireman.

Giovanni set about building an ice-cream business using an old handcart. By the 1900s his 12 sons were hard at work selling the goods. The coalmining industry was very prevalent around the Doncaster area," says Mark. "My

father's early years were spent waiting outside the pits at 11 or 12 o'clock at night for [the] shift to come out, where they'd buy ice-cream. The stories go that the horses really knew their own way home because my father or his brothers were often fast asleep in the bottom

of the cart." In the 1950s, the family sold what was possibly the most advanced ice-cream manufacturing plant in the UK, if not in Europe, to J Lyons, later Lyons Maid. Ronnie Massarella bought back part of the business in 1963, and made it a market leader in soft icecream retailing.

In 1968. Ronnie was given the task of taking his cousin's horse, Mr Softee, to the Olympic Games in Mexico City. He was asked to step in after the team manager fell ill and was duly made Chef d'Equipe, a position he holds to this day.

The British showiumping team included Lady Fraser, wife of Sir Hugh, who had taken charge at House of Fraser on the death of his

Massarella restaurants soon began appearing in in Blackpool and New-

subsequently groups. Buy an ice-cream in won the contract to supply icecream to Selfridge's London, and held it for 16

developed

tastes 🤊

Mark runs the company with his three brothers, and does not have a regular routine. One day might find him visiting a new House of Fraser site in Swindon. The next might find him travelling round the M25 for discussions with clients. "I don't have such a thing as an average week. Some days I'm out very early in the morning and out until nine and ten at night. Other days I'll wander into the office at nine o'clock like anybody

Sunday now." Mark left school at 16, and joined an ice-cream retailing depot in Doncaster, working his way up to depot manager. He was involved from the outset when the family began to diversify, opening the family's first in-store restaurant at Atkinsons in Sheffield.

Traditional British favourites such as baked beans on toast might be on the



way out. "I think tastes in food have changed tremendously in the last seven or eight years. People are travelling more. and have developed a very cosmopolitan taste. We are selling a range of Italian breads where people previously wanted a wrapped sandwich. I think coffee proves it more than anything. Flavoured coffees and the capuccinos are all back in vogue . . .

Mark regularly travels abroad to catch up on the latest more theatre in his venues, with glass-fronted kitchens, and chels whipping up stir-fries in full view of the diners. He thinks London has a lot to learn from New York. There are so many good restaurants, even those in Saks Fifth Avenue and Barney's on Madison. They're superb and very entertaining, and they seem to have a lot

more theatre about them."

ing into Massarella venues. "i was in a restaurant on Fifth Avenue where you could dip different types of bread into different oils, and buy both. We have jars filled with Italian mushrooms and olives and artichokes, and the customer actually sees us ladling them out onto salads. We've seen a demand for them. If people can take home what they eat. it's a good add-on."

The Massarella empire is run from Thurcroft Hall near home to Ronnie, 72, and his wife, Edna, and set in 200 acres. There is a riding school in the grounds, and board meetings are punctuat-

ed by neighing from 20 horses. Mark lives in the Old Laundry with his wife and five sons and is hailed in the family's publicity material as the Godfather, the one who listens to the ideas and seeks out the clients. Jeremy is portrayed as "the Consigliere, the money

from another nationality more renowned for keeping a tight hold on the purse strings". A third brother, Stephen, is "the Arthur Daly, the wheeler and dealer. None of the others really know what Monday 🔿

man who the others believe is

not really Italian in origin, but

Tuesday 🗸 of business Wednesday hours. Michael. hursday riday as the inspiration

for many of the menus. "Out of work he sees himself as a typical Italian peasant, growing veggies and pottering around his farm." Mark plays down the Godfather angle. *Obviously, I work very closely with my brothers and we have a very good family working relationship. We see

ourselves very much as equals

Army & Navy. "We try to make two visits a year as a board of directors and family together, to every restaurant. That's become a custom now." Mark visits up to 20 stores he does out

some weeks. Nearly 1,000 food lines are distributed around the UK. and communication can be tricky at times. Mark recalls patched an employee to a local supermarket to buy fresh supplies of chips. "She came back with a freshly wrapped bag of chips in newspaper from the local fish and chip shop. It just

with our own strengths." This

said, Papa and the boys have a

habit of turning up en masse

at Dickins & Jones or the

tion can go wrong." Mark hopes to win more contracts running staff canteens - never, traditionally, the most gourmet of experiences. "We've only scratched

shows you how communica-

at the surface with our business in that sector. Most clients, now, are wanting a lot more for their staff with perhaps less subsidy anached to it. I think people will pay a little bit more if they know they're getting some variety

and something better." Massarella is locked in a battle for market share with the giants of UK catering. Compass, Sutcliffe and Gardner Merchant, but insists no one in the family is ready to generous the offer. "We've had a few tempting discussions. but none of us is at the stage where we want to sell out." About £2 million of profit was ploughed back into the business last year, after payment of directors' fees, which Mark insists are reasonable. "There's certainly no fat cats

on our board at the moment." The aim is to lift pre-tax profits from £2.1 million to £3.5 million by 2000, on turnover rising from £35 million to £55 million. "That's very realistic, and we're already in negotiations with independent shopping centres. Staff catering is becoming more retail.

We feel we are well placed." Family-run companies are prone to feuds, as followers of C&J Clark and Littlewoods are well aware. Mark insists that all is well at Massarella. "I think I've been very fortunate with my brothers that we've worked very well regether and we've kept the business as a whole. I think what tends to happen with a lot of family businesses is that you get to a certain size and get married, and split up the business. We've actually managed to maintain a growing business where we work very well together and trade off each other's strengths. What the next generation's going to be like, God only knows.

HIDDEN ASSETS

American-style flair is creep-

Telecoms giant enjoys art of water

Art on a big scale provides a relaxing feature at the headquarters of Cable and Wireless. Joanna Pitman reports

aimed at forging a £32 billion merger, get bogged down in complexities, you can imagine that Brian Smith, chairman of Cable & Wireless, might seek calming inspira-tion from the six-storey waterfall that flows peacefully, from morning to night, in the atrium of his company's

head office.

The waterfall, technically a water sculpture, is the work of William Pye, the artist who designed the monumental 70-yard water wall for Nicholas Grimshaw's British Pavilion at Expo 92 in Seville.

While the water wall was a highlight of the Expo, Pye later caught the public eye in Britain with his water sculpture at Gatwick Airport.

The work. Slipstream and Jetstream, is in the departure lounge of the North Terminal and consists of two large asymmetrical cones covered by a thin lamina film of flowing water that is dragged into rhythmical wave patterns. Hundreds of people pass it

every day as they descend a circular walking ramp that curls around it on the way to the departure gates.

C&W's investment in Pye was a shrewd and early one. In 1989, when plans for refurbishing C&W's 1956 building at 124 Theobalds Road, London, were being discussed, Gordon Owen, then managing director, sug-gested a water feature, and Pye was found. The piece he

f the tense negotiations between Cable & Wireless and British Telecom, between the tense negotiations produced for C&W, with his architect, David Franklin, is simply entrancing. It is called Avenitino, after one of the hills of Rome that was home

to Mercury.
It consists of a continuous "wall" of water flowing six storeys down platinated bronze panels that are sculpted to create a rippled effect. At the bottom, the water wall fans out to flow down a wide glass sheet and into a shallow

pond in the fover.

The sculpture is lit with powerful theatrical lights to pick out the different colours in the bronze backdrop and to highlight the shapes created by the moving flow.
Light shades of green and

the cool Portland stone facades all around create a graceful, tranquil ambiance in the humming headquarters of one of the world's biggest telecommunications groups. When you use the glass-fronted lifts, you pass behind the flow of water and can look down on a furious cascade. It is a sensation similar to walking behind the torrential flow of Niagara

Since the C&W work, Pye has been involved in many big engineering and construction projects, including theme consultant to Teesside Development Corporation.

It is no surprise that his creativity has followed this direction. His father was Sir David Pye, a president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. who helped to found the engineering school at Cambridge.



Cable and Wireless's six-storey atrium waterfall

Royal College of Art. Pye joined a West End gallery, Where he had several successful exhibitions. However, the larger scales of industrial materials and processes soon began to interest him and a fascination with big outdoor works lured him away from progressed beyond the fount-

After graduating from the the intimacy of the gallery world. He was worked with various degrees of success as a sculptor in a number of media for 25 years until the 1980s, when he became fascinated by the idea of working with water. "Water sculp-

ture" at the time had barely

ain, and Pye began his water work in the US, producing sculptures in or around pools, and five pieces for shopping malls.

Pye's first real "water sculpture" is Water Trellis, a tri-angle of steel tubes from which water shoots in a serene, curved stream. After that, he began a series of bowls brimming with water. The mesmerising focus of each piece is the way in which the meniscus stands above the rim of the bowls. The surfaces are so smooth, dark and opaque that they look like polished black marble.

ach piece requires a igh level of lead de-monitored water treatment. In one early work, Pye ended up with gallons and gallons of bright red, rusty water because an engineer had failed to use stainless steel piping. After that, Pye decided to oversee construction himself.

The C&W installation includes a sophisticated leak detection system that will trigger a shut-off of the water supply and make the pumps drain the system. Filters and a water treatment plant have been custom-made and are designed to pump nearly nine gallons a second around the sculpture.

In many ways, Pye is an architect-sculptor, a rare combination, and he is now rising high in Britain's firmament of artistic stars. Aventino has been shortlisted, with six other pieces. for the 1995 Art and Work Award, and members of the Fountains Society make pilgrimages to Theobalds Road to view C&W's flowing art.



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Electricity shares soar on takeover hopes

A CHARGED electricity sec-tor shone brighter after talk that the two English power generators would get a green light from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in their attempts to take over electricity distributors.

National Power advanced 14p to 492p, on volume of 10.7 million shares, and Power-Gen surged 13½ p to 562p, on 12.9 million shares traded. Shares of their respective bid targets rose. Southern Electric, was up 21p at 893p, and Midlands, was 7p higher at

Shares in other regional electricity companies also surged. East Midlands rose 34p to 658p, and Yorkshire 15p to 898p, while London added 10p to 809p and Northern 21p

The optimism rubbed off on the water stocks. Anglian climbed 10p to 597p, Severn Trent 9p to 597p, South West 18p to 714p, Southern 8p to 748p and United Utilities 11p

to 604p. Elsewhere in the market, traders appeared to take the Staffordshire South-East byelection defeat in their stride, in spite of the Government's Commons majority being re-

duced to just one. Supportive US inflation data led to a positive start to trading on Wall Street and strength in Treasuries, which in turn boosted sentiment in London and provided a late raily after evidence of shortcovering. The FT-SE 100 index ended near its best levels of the day, closing up 22.6 at 3,766.8. Volume reached 882 million shares, boosted by sizeable trading in a number of leading stocks.

Cable and Wireless, which saw heavy options activity on Thursday, advanced to 546p, before settling at 535p, up 9p. on volume of 9.77 million, as renewed bid speculation resurfaced after reports that Deutsche Telekom may make a counter offer to the one being discussed with BT. The Deutsche Telekom finance director disclosed at a dinner in Frankfurt that there is still a chance of a German bid. BT, whose advisers are in talks with those of C&W, added 12p to 37112p, on volume of 14.2

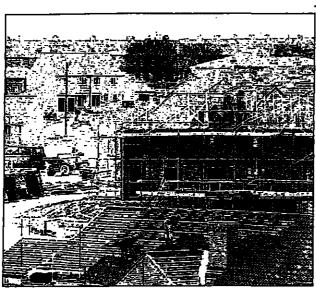
Tesco, Britain's biggest supermarket group, which is due to report full-year figures on Tuesday, added 3p to 288p, on busy volume of 14.8 million shares. UBS has pencilled in

Volume: 1379

Volume: 5015

LIFE OPTIONS

WHITE SUGAR (FOR)



House price rises boosted building-related stocks yesterday

final pre-tax profits of £680 million (£595 million). Credit Lyonnais Laing is recom-mending a switch out of J Sainsbury, unchanged at 375p. on volume of 3.3 million. and into Tesco. Elsewhere in the food retailing sector, Asda firmed Ip to 1053 p, on heavy volume of 30.2 million shares.

Building-related stocks continued to climb in the wake of

Panmure Gordon's engineering team has upgraded its forecast for British Aerospace. 15p up at 872p, by £20 million for 1996 and by £30 million for 1997 and 1998. Panmure also recommends buying BAe as well as Morgan Crucible, down Ip to 414p, but suggests selling Babcock, up Ip at 130p, and GKN, 4p lower at 979p.

this week's mortgage cuts and further evidence that house prices are rising. A Halifax survey pointed out that a sharp increase in UK house prices had pushed the number of households in negative equity below 1 million for the first time since 1992, raising hopes for a sustained housing

market recovery. A bear squeeze saw RMC stand out with a 47p increase to £10.69 ahead of full-year results next Thursday, while

COMMODITIES

Brent Physical 23,00 -0.80
Brent IS day (May) 22,00 -0.80
Brent IS day (Jun) 20,40 -0.35
W Texas Intermediate (May) 22,40 -0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Jun) 22,40 -0.30

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

BRENT (6.00pm)

Copper Gde A (\$/lonne) Lead (\$/lonne) Zinc Spec Hi Gde (\$/tonne) ... Tin (\$/tonne) ium HI Gde f5/tonne

27.36-22.38 Aug ... 18.23-18.25 20.45 BID Sep ... 17.73-17.77 19.04 BID Vol: 64710

Calls Puts Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct

Secies May Aug New May Aug New

400 39 53 59 27 131 177

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500 127 277 307 145 145 187 24

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500 135 417 59 33 57 55

22°, 11 43°, 26 66°, 49 – 121

PRODUCTS (\$/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt)

FI Group RMC Group

stocks, with Shell 13p higher at \$\$4p, on volume of 7.5 million shares, boosted by recommendations from ABN Amro Hoare Govett and NatWest Securities, BP added 64p to 598p, as 7 million shares changed hands, and

the amplification of the control of
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Beazer Homes added 12p to 201p. Barratt Developments 9p to 27lp. George Wimpey 4p to 151p, Hepworth 14p to 297p, Wolseley 9p to 469p and Redland 14p to 403p.

Ennemix gained 3p to 36p after Redland raised its cash offer to 35p, valuing Ennemix at £6.7 million.

The strong crude price prompted fresh interest in oil

Lasmo gained op to 188p, on volume of 16.6 million shares, with BZW and NatWest said to be positive on the stock. Recent precious metal price rises led to continued demand for RTZ, up 20p to 998p, on			
F THE WEEK			
k's nge			

MOVERS	OF THE WEEK
Carrent street s	Week's change +21p Strong crude oil price +22p Higher crude price +175p Raises hostile bid for BET +45p Premiership win hopes +61p New issue at 235p +66p Firm building stocks +14p Strong housebuilders +46p Successful drug trial +36p Broker buy recommendation

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

RUBBER (No I RSS CIT p/k)

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd \$10/pg)

3mth: 2544.0-2545.0 612.00-613.00 1085.5-1086.0

POTATO (£/4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Cash: 2572.0-2573.0 825.00-825.00 1061.0-1061.5

mism about a higher gold also helped Bakyrchik

d add 25p to 445p. ere were red faces at the business services p which is trying to fend E2.1 billion hostile bid Rentokil, the environal and industrial services p, after the Takeover Pan-iticised statements made e company on Thursday Rentokil's increased p. on volume of 7 million s, while Rentokil firmed

Ils-Royce added Sp to 227p. as 11.3 million shares changed hands, boosted by reports of buy advice from Merrill Lynch.

A placing by SBC Warburs of 1.5 million shares in British Biotech at £21.95, saw the stock nurse a one-time loss of 53p before a late rally helped the shares to recover to £23.65,

Lonrho eased 512 p to 207 2 p as news of a closer link with Anglo American reduced hopes of a bid. Anglo American has taken an option on the 18.4 per cent stake in Lonrho held by Dieter Bock, the company's German chief exec-utive. This gives the mighty South African mining group a say over 28.5 per cent of Lonrho, just as the conglomerate is getting ready to demerge its mining interests. Anglo said it would work in the long term with Lonrho's mining

Arjo Wiggins lost 82p to 1832 p on concerns that overcapacity in the paper and packaging industry will hit profitability, while David S Smith, its fellow packaging group, fell Sp to 285p. GILT-EDGED: The mar-

ket opened lower, but there was a strong recovery after the release of US data. The June series of the long gilt future spent the morning at about £10428/32, before rallying to close at £10521/21, up 29 ticks. on volume of 63,000 contracts traded. Longer-dated issues fared best among conventional stocks, with gains stretching to El for ultra-longs, shorts added about £3s and index-☐ NEW YORK: Shares rose

on Wall Street, supported by a being battered all week in highly volatile trading. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 20.95 points at 5,508.02. LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURE

FT-SE 100 Previous open

FT-SE 250

Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 345375

Three Month Euro Yen

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): 5538.02 (+20.95) Tokyo: Nikkei Averas 21660.47 (-35.96) Hong Kong: Hang Seng Amsterdam:

Sydney: Frankfurt: Singapore Brussels:

Paris: Zurich: +108.0 (+17.5) 1897.9 (+10.5) FT-SE-A 350 1636.24 (-4.11) FT-SE Eurotrack 100 FT A All-Share . 2004.24 (+11.67)

> 150.9 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1987=100 150.2 Feb (2.9%) Jan 1987=100 RECENT ISSUES

Bank of England official close (4pm)

2,2731 (+0,0012)

FT GoVT Secs

German Mark

Abtrust Emerg Asia 693 Advent VCT British Smaller Co's Cambridge Wtr NV 235 Cliveden (73) Close Brothers VCT Dicom Group (270) 310 Easynet Group (100) 105 - 3 FI Group (235) Fulmar Gartmore VCT Guinness Flight VCT 95 Hill Sml UK (100) Hurlingham Props Marine & Merc (125) 120 Orange (205) Penine AIM VCT Perp Inc Gwth (500) 515 Raphael Zorn (32) Scottish Asian C Silver Shield Group (3) 34 Systs Integ Res (115) 120

RIGHTS ISSUES

Eldos Uts n/p (675) Fairway Gp n/p (50) 6 GWR Uts UL n/p (205) 5 Guiness Peat n/p (30) 6-VDC n/p (675)

Taverners Trust Uts 513

Triad Group (135) 184

MAJOR CHANGES

329p (+26p)
282p (+20p)
145p (-10p)
375p (-25p)
332p (+25p)
175p (+10p)
229p (-22p)
405p (-12p)
735p (-10p)
13630 (-110)
535p (-6p)
404p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 39

4423.0

93.72 93.75 93.35

S	3 . j		DOLLAR RATES
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		•	Germany 1.5035-1.
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~	43.32		Australia dollar 1.9115-11
9	48. ID	426	Bahrain dinar
6	98.01	220)	Brazil real* 1.4778-1.
7	110.11	43020	China yuan 1200
4	110.43	43020	Cyprus pound 0.70(x)-0.
	IU~.86	a	Finland markka 7,0250-7.
			Greece drachma 362.25-36
-			Hong Kong dollar 11.6854-11.
		1	India rupee 51.36-5

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ss Franc	2-1%	1"5-1"4	P-P	FeP₁	
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GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Open \$395.10-395.40 Class: \$394.20-394.70 High: \$395.10-395.40 PML: \$394.75 Low: \$393.90-394.40 AM: 5395.20

Platinum: \$406.00 (£268.35) Silver: \$5.32 (£3.645) Palladium: \$136.25 (£90.05)						
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES						
Mki Rates for April 12	Range	Clase	dissen. I	3 month		
Amsterdam	25348-25437	25348-25431	`e':pr	2-1'-pr		
Brussels	40.57-46.77	10.00-10.76	≀3-lOpr	33-28 pr		
Copenhagen	8.7570-5.7890	8.7740-A.7360	1'-!'\pr	41-31-pr		
Dublia	0.9669-0.9709	0.9674-0.9700	9-001	23-18pr		
Franklurt	2.26%6-2.2765	22734-22765	''-nr	1'-1'-Dr		
Lisbon	232,92-234.01	233.39-234.01	وأورب	'-1d5		
Madrid	189.03-190.28	189.87-190.16	26-36ds	72-89ds		
Milan	2370.9-238010	2370.9-2374.9	7-845	21-23:45		
Montreal	20474-20534	2.0199-2.0529	0.18-0.12pr	U.38-0.25pr		
New York	1.5106-1.5136	1 5130-1-5130	0.07-0.05 pr	0.19-0.16pr		
Oslummann	9,8040-4,8350	9,8140-9,8290	i'-'er	3'-2'-pr		
Paris	7,7050-7,7350	7.7190-7.7330	1'-1'-pr	31-31.pr		
Ctarlibales	10 001 10 123	ID IC4 10 177	Late of the	12.00		

TEMPUS

Teutonic zeal

THE possibility that Deutsche Telekom may bid for Cable and Wireless is tantalising, but shareholders should not get their hopes up. The German company is remarkably parochial and has made international expansion its top strategic priority, but is unlikely to bid for all of C&W. It is too big, too expensive and comes with a 10.5 per cent shareholder. Veba. which would vote against a takeover by Deutsche Telekom. Veba is highly ambitious and plans to become one of Deutsche Telekom's main rivals once the domestic market is deregulated.

BT, nonethéless, should not get smug. Although it is C&W's most logical merger partner, there is no guarantee the two will join forces. C&W is in play and has a fiduciary duty to get the best deal for its shareholders. Foreign companies are welcome to bid and, contrary to the propaganda put out by BT. the: Government has given no hint that it would use its golden share to keep C&W British. Similarly, any telecoms company with global aspirations has an obligation to consider a takeover bid for C&W. Through its majority stake in Hong Kong Telecom. it is the only Western phone company with a significant presence in Asia, the world's fastest growing lecoms market.

If not Deutsche Telekom, who else? It appears increasingly unlikely that any single company has the wherewithal to tackle CaW. A consortium of companies, however, might be able to pull it off. They could share the bits they want, such as Hong Kong Telecom, and shed the rest. Shareholders should welcome. the takeover rumours. If nothing else, they might force BT to up the ante to get a deal.

the doyen of telephone open

ations. Direct Line, is slow-

ing. and analysts have

downgraded profit expecta-

tions as a result.

Insurance

industry. Bad weather up to Christmas hit the composites hard and cost them each an average £30 to £40 million in property and motor damage claims. Just as they were compiling final results, the January freeze caused another round of burst pipes and car accidents. While warning that premiums would have to go up later this year if margins were to be protected, insurers were anxious about pricing themselves out of what had become a fiercely competitive market, and have been reluctant to bring in rises of more than 4 per cent.

IT HAS been a long, hard

There are now 50 telephone-based insurers, the majority of them fighting for motor business in a market that is widely acknowledged

Composites hope that the since the birth rate is falling. industry is nearing the end In such a market, gaining of its downward cycle but new business will become a premiums are barely rising. Unlike the rest of us, the matter of poaching customers from rivals. Already there are signs that the growth enjoyed by UNDERPERFORMING UNDERWRITERS

to have reached saturation

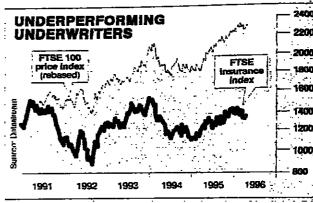
point. Demographics predict

that the number of car own-

ers will stay stable or de-

crease over the next decade.

insurers are still waiting for signs of spring.



Privatisations

IN THE world of investment. investors should always reassure themselves of the credibility of those on the receiving end of the money.

As a general rule, professional investors play very safe with overnight cash deposits with central banks and buy bonds from responsible governments. They then diversify into solid property offering fixed, long-term rental yields and spend the rest on equities.

Following this rule of thumb, one would expect that buying shares in a privatisation organised by a government would prove to be steady, if not exciting. But how wrong we can all be.

Spare a thought for those prospectus. If they believed it. by now they would have expected to receive a reasonable dividend. Instead they have only a dilutive financial reconstruction to look for-

Think also of those who invested in British Gas shares, the world's only integrated gas company they were sold in their prospectus. A few years later the company has been somewhat disintegrated into two halves.

At least these deviations from expectation occurred over the longer term. It took investors in the second tranches of PowerGen and National Power two days to be disappointed by an astonishing statement from the electricity regulator, Stephen Littlechild, that he would consider further price controis after all.

This week's National Audit Office finding, that Littlechild was mistaken but committed no wrongdoing, is of little comfort. There are precious few privatisations left for the worthy NAO recommendations to have any bearing on.

Lonrho

WHEN Anglo American, the South African mining giant,

April April midday daw

describes itself as a long-term shareholder in Lonrho vou probably have to believe it. Anglo rarely makes full bids but would gain much from working closely with Lanrho in the coming months as the conglomerate's mining interests are demerged by Dieter

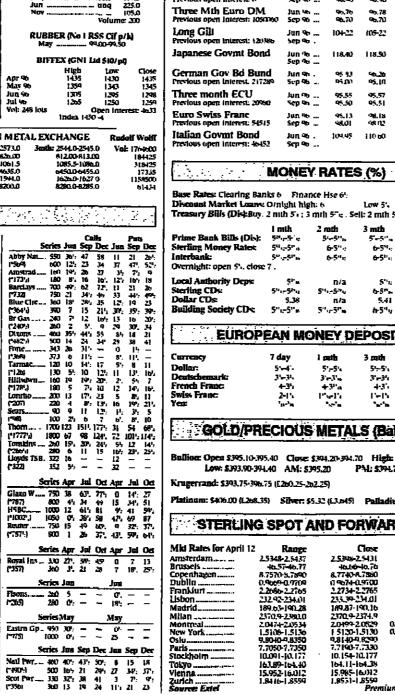
Bock, the chief executive. Yesterday's strengthening of Anglo's hold over Bock's 18.5 per cent — from a right of first refusal to an option to buy — puts Anglo in charge of 28.5 per cent of Lonrho, a large lever with which to influence the demerger, although exercise of the option will probably occur around the time of the demerger.

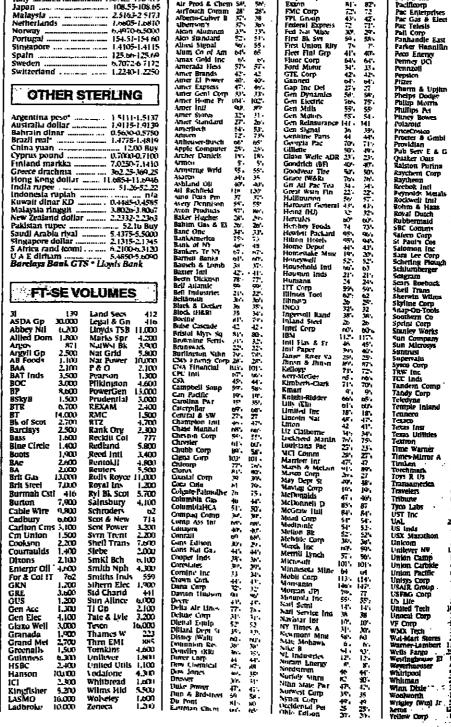
For Lonrho shareholders. yesterday's announcement has rather unexciting implications for the share price. Against a market price of 208p. Anglo buys at just 220p and Bock can sell at 180p - a bit less than the 250p once talked about Cheap enough. however, for Anglo, which is spared the hassle of making a

WALL STREET

11

SeriesMay Aug Nor May Aug Nor







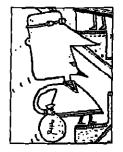
UNIT-LINK LOSS 30

Those who miss out in the Clerical Medical takeover

WEEKEND MONEY

BUMPY RIDE 35

Ups and downs of owning an escalator bond



Ombudsman responds to payout row

Sara McConnell says the outrage felt by dispossessed savers may lead to a law change

rian Murphy, the Building Societies Ombudsman, is to press for an extension of his powers to allow him to investigate complaints from hundreds of thousands of savers and borrowers who have been excluded from bonus payouts from society mergers and conversions.

The move by the independent official, who intervenes in disputes between societies and their saving and borrowing members, comes in the week that the National & Provincial's 1.4 million members voted overwhelmingly for their society to be taken over by the Abbey National in return for payouts of up to £4,750. But the vote only went through after its board suffered hours of attacks by members who will lose out.

Such is the anger felt by those who did not qualify for payouts from the Woolwich that they have formed a protest group, headed by David Adams, a Woolwich saver for 26 years. Mr Adams, who believes the most effective action is for long-term members to join together, has invited all disgruntled savers and borrowers to meet at the Moat House in Oxford on May 11 where an action plan will be

Meanwhile, angry members excluded from bonus payouts from N&P and other societies are besieging the ombudsman's office, demanding that he intervene to force societies to reverse their decision. The Times has received many similar letters. But the ombudsman cannot investigate such complaints as they

are outside his remit. Many savers and borrowers

THE RULES

Tou can only qualify for a cash payout if you have been a qualifying member for at least two years. This means either that you have had £100 or more in a share account at the date set by the building society or that you owe £100 or more on a mortgage.

If you have been a qualifying member for less than two years you can only receive a bonus Only the first named

person on the account counts as a member. After an outcry, a Private Member's Bill brought by Douglas French, MP, changed the rules to allow widows and widowers to receive payouts if the first ned holder died fore a payout. Deposit accounts have

no membership rights.

have already missed out on payouts after the takeover of the Cheltenham & Gloucester by Lloyds. Many more will be excluded from bonanzas after the conversions of the Halifax and the Woolwich to public companies and the takeover of National & Provincial by the

Abbey National. The Alliance & Leicester has yet to announce details of bonuses for members who agree to it becoming a bank.

Building societies blame poorly drafted legislation governing takeovers and conversions for many exclusions. But societies themselves have come under attack for setting arbitrary cut-off dates. disqualifying loyal members. To thwart opportunists who were opening accounts in the first weeks of January, the Woolwich fixed on December 31, 1995. But this worked against many long-term investors who had taken their balance below the £100 limit on that date. As the takeover speculation

grows again this week. Mr Murphy is concerned that excluded members have no redress, apart from the courts. The Building Societies Com-mission will hear formal representations from members when it is deciding whether or not to approve takeovers or vestigate whether correct procedures have been followed.

N&P answers, page 30



Full steam ahead from Monday

The pathfinder prospectus for the £1.8 billion Railtrack privatisation will be launched on Monday. amid a flurry of train similes, such as "gathering a head of steam" and "about to leave the station," Anne Ashworth writes.

The draft document will not contain the price for shares in the company, which owns the rail network's track, termini and tunnels. But these blanks will be filled in on May I when the final version of the prospectus is expected.

Meanwhile, the stock market already predicts that Railtrack's shares, in their partly-paid discounted form, will offer a yield of about 15-20 per cent. The yield on the fully-paid shares should be about 6 per cent, comparable to the return on the National Grid.

The price will reflect the political uncertainties surrounding Railtrack. Labour has already an-nounced that, if it takes power, it will toughen the regulatory regime governing the business. However, it will not seek to renationalise the business. An outline of the party's proposals will appear in the pro-spectus. It will also contain details of the departure of Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director, the official responsible for selling off British Rail's passenger services The surprise news late this week of his decision to quit has cast something of a shadow over the flotation. Payment for Railtrack shares will

be in two instalments, each in a different tax year. Individual investors will get a discount on their first instalment. Under the terms of the incentive package, announced on Thursday, they will also be able to receive a 15p discount on the second instalment on the first 800 shares allocated. This sweetener is worth a maximum of £120. Investors can also opt for one free bonus share for every 15 held continuously until May 31 1999. These incentives apply only through share shops.

> is edited by Anne Ashworth

Mutual — well, for the moment

s the Bristol & West Building Society prepares to turn its back on nearly 150 years of mutual tradition by passing into the control of the Bank of Ireland, speculation surrounding the sector is running at a high

After the news that both the Bristol & West and the Northern Rock, as predicted by The Times, are abandoning mutuality, the focus is increasingly turning to the medium-sized societies, such as Birmingham Midshires. West Bromwich, Chelsea, National Counties, Norwich & Peterborough and Portman. The societies are seen as possible hostile bid targets, or as candidates for friendly mergers.
All have this week protested

that they intend to remain independent. But such words now sound hollow since they

society that has announced its intention to turn itself into a bank, or become a bank subsidiary. This quote from the Birmingham Midshires is typical: "We are committed to our mutual values, we have had no approaches and there have been no talks."

The Portman, however, is being more realistic. The society is ranked 12th but, in the new order, after the various conversions and takeovers, it will be nearer sixth place and interested in merging with a medium-sized building society in the South of England.

We are interested in looking at mergers, where they make geographical sense and as long as the Portman was the dominant partner." said John Gully, the society's head of corporate affairs. The problem is that as soon as an

nounced, you are considered 'in play' and that's when a bank could make a hostile bid." Other societies are running scared from the torrent of funds now flowing through their doors and some are rejecting new customers. The National Counties, 32nd in the league, and the Lambeth, ranked at number 30, this week announced that they are no longer opening share

accounts

The Nationwide, the second largest society, this week its commitment to mutuality by cutting its mortgage rate to 6.74 per cent, 0.51 per cent below the Halifax. But this action will not ensure that it escapes the speculation. as it is seen as a possible aggressor, eager to acquire other societies. Although today the phrase "mutual and proud

of any Nationwide executive. the society has, in the recent past, contemplated a stock market flotation.

These plans were scotched when it lost out to Abbey National in the struggle for control of the National & Provincial. The Nationwide has also been seen as a possible target for the Mid-land Bank which would be eager to enlarge its mortgage operations.

This week the society stated its position thus: "We are not actively looking for merger opportunities but if another society shared our values, we would be happy to talk to them. However, we would not want to get into a bidding auction with a plc."

> SARAH JONES AND ANNE ASHWORTH

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4.4%

4.3%

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income PKP

Halifax

N&P

ient Authority. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances.

*Estimated gross income calculated on 2.4.96. Redemption yield is 7.6%.

Abbey National

After

Basic

Rate Tax

8%#

3.3%

3.2%

2.7%

After

Higher

Rate Tax

8%*

2.5%

2.6%

2.6%

2.7%

Take a wiser line with your money. The above bank and building society information refers to interest rates (variable) for deposits of £10,000 - £24,999 held in 90 day accounts. Source: Money Facts 1.4.96. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of moome may go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested after deduction of charges and expenses. Tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax savings and eligibility to invest in a PEP will depend on individual circumstances. Fidelity PEPs are offered by Fidelity Investments Limited, regulated by IMRO and the Personal

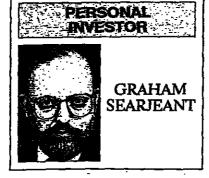
Murphy in Downing Street

errill Lynch's latest City survey found that 93 per cent of the fund managers polled expected Labour to form the next government. Individuals are not so nearly unanimous. Loyal Tories hate to think their party will lose. But after the voters' verdict at Tamworth, the sensible strategy is to assume Tony Blair will be at Number 10 by May next year and Gordon Brown next door.
This need not make investors pore

over Labour policy papers in search of winners and losers. There will be plenty of that, but it will be a frustrating task. To start with, Labour has made a virtue of avoiding controversy, or the commitments that traditionally boosted public sector construction and investment. Intentions are also a poor guide to what actually happens. In 1979-80, the last thing the new Conservative government wanted was to sweep away swathes of manufacturing industry. Yet that was the result of its actions.

in one respect, events are likely to repeat what happened 17 years ago, the last time the political tide reversed. Now, as then, the incumbent government is likely to take short-term measures to boost its chances. In 1979, Labour's Clegg commission on public sector pay delivered an unwelcome boost to public spending and inflation

for the incoming Conservatives. The present Cabinet seems addicted to unpopular measures, but the Chancelfor will certainly cut direct taxes and most likely avoid any interest rate rise in the next 12 months, almost regardless of circumstance A new Labour govern-The second secon



ment, like the Tories in 1979, would be too wrapped up in its own agenda for ministers to have their eye fully on the economic ball. In 1979, for instance, a long-planned switch from direct to indirect taxation worsened a legacy of rising nominal inflation, worsening the recession to come.

In 1997, good intentions may again be swamped by an unwelcome legacy. In this case, the heirlooms are likely to include an excessive Budget deficit and could stretch to an overly lax monetary stance. Correcting these would probably not be top priority in the early months, perhaps until the strain hits sterling. Labour will also have a steep learning curve and is likely to make early mistakes it will have to correct later.

Under a Blair government, the supposed law that Labour spends more, taxes more and gets into fiscal trouble should be repealed. Murphy's law will still be in force. It is even possible that Labour will repeat a mistake of 1965, political accident than Labour policies.

when tax measures designed to curb dividends, and boost retained profits for investment, cut retentions instead. Labour has wooed the City. But some top departmental shadow ministers have little idea how markets worth; for instance that higher investment and profit go together in regulated industries. A cautious investment stance may

therefore be wise. Many small investors have a lot of their equity funds in highyield utilities. Given Labour's promised levy and possible anti-dividend measures, sentiment is likely to desert such domestic stocks in favour of multinationals as the election approaches If you want to lighten holdings, do it early. The same applies to perceived losers from a minimum wage, such as pub and hotel groups, whatever the reality.

trategists at brokers BZW are already looking ahead to the phase of the economic cycle when cash is king and it pays to invest in companies with strong cash flow rather than cyclical recovery or growth stocks. The private sector has moved into financial deficit after four years of repaying debt. As BZW admits. it is premature to invest defensively. You still want growth as well as strong internal finances. On the surface, that applies even more if politics unduly prolong short-term growth policies. But retribution would then be worse.

Strong cash generators in growth industries are also a good bet if Labour acts against dividends and takeovers. But investors should be more wary of

Unit-linked clients miss takeover bonus

Marianne Curphey on winners and

losers among Clerical Medical clients

as the Halifax snaps up the life insurer

rithin six weeks, Clerical Medical policyholders will discover how much they will gain from the £800 million takeover of their life insurer by the Halifax Building Society.

However, one category of policyholders will be excluded from the special bonus payout. They are the tens of thousands of savers with unit-linked policies who cannot even voice displeasure by voting against the deal, because they are not entitled to vote. They are barred by the arcane rules of mutual organisations such as Clerical Medical, which say that only with-profits policy holders have a stake in the business and the right to vote.

They will not receive payouts because they are deemed not to have taken a share of the risk - Clerical Medical has grown and they have not provided capital for

Instead, their contributions have been pooled to buy units. that are kept separate from the

main fund. Although they have been charged expenses to cover the cost of running the fund, their contributions, or so the argument runs, have not helped to bring in new

Douglas Claisse, deputy chief executive of Clerical Medical, said that only policy-holders with unitised withprofits or ordinary with-profits funds would have voting rights and share in the payout. He said: "The Halifax is

taking over Clerical Medical, and the with-profits policyholders who are members of the mutual are being compensated for losing their membership rights. Unit-linked policy-holders are not affected."

However, many unit-linked policyholders who have invested in the mutual feel that they are being short-changed.

Katie Knapton. a Times reader who works at Cambridge University and runs a society for Cambridge graduates, believes the distinction is unfair. "It has never been

explained to unit-linked policyholders in detail why they have been excluded from the payout, since many of them have made contributions for a number of years," she said.

Roman Cizdyn, an insurance analyst with Merrill Lynch, agrees. Unit-linked policyholders might, in theory, have a case for challenging their exclusion from the special bonuses if they were sold the product by a member of a direct sales force who could have advised them to opt for a with-profits policy, he says.

Mike Wadsworth, an actuary with Watson Wyatt, the accountancy firm, said that if unit-linked policyholders were to claim that they are entitled to receive a share of the profits of the organisation, a buyer might decide to reward them when the deal goes through as

ndustry figures show that with-profits and unit-linked policies are sold in roughly equal numbers in the UK, although when financial markets are rising, unit-linked policies are popular because they take advantage of investment returns.

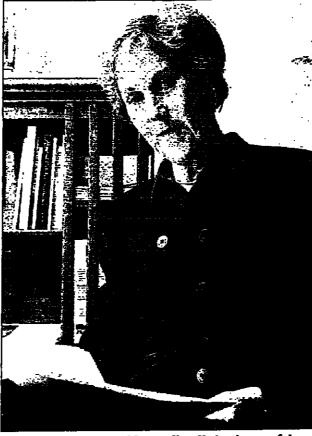
General Accident, which bought the life company Provident Mutual last year, will pay bonuses of about £100 to its 250,000 with-profits policyholders, but nothing to its 50,000 unit-linked members.

Mike Urmston, assistant general manager and chief actuary of General Accident, says that only with-profits policyholders are being rewarded because, historically, they have provided the capital to make the business grow. Unit-linked policyholders

only benefit from a takeover if the management charges on their funds are reduced or frozen," he said. "We have guaranteed that expenses for Provident Mutual savers will not rise for five years. With-profits premiums go into the reserves, which the company can use to finance new busines Clerical Medical has guar-

anteed that expenses, which are reviewed annually, will rise in line with the Retail Price Index and not above it for at least five years. At present, the average effect of charges on a fund's performance is equivalent to an annual I per cent yield cut. For most with-profits policy-holders, Clerical Medical will

pay an enhanced terminal bonus (an extra payment distri-buted at the end of the policy's



Katie Knapton considers policy distinctions unfair

(equivalent to the special annual bonus) every December for the next three years. The policy must have been in force at midnight on March 22 and still be running at midnight on December 31, 1996. Mr Claisse estimates this will be worth an average £2,172 to someone who has held a £30,000 policy

Savers whose with-profits

policies mature between the two qualifying dates will be given the equivalent of the special reversionary (annual) bonus only. A small number of policyholders who took out their unit-linked policies before 1984 - the year in which the group changed the rules on voting rights - will also benefit from a payout. All other unit-linked policyhold-

charity by the Inland Revenue.

For over 30 years Slet has been

entitled to claim a refund of

the tax deducted from its

investment income in relation

to school fees plans. This has

allowed the trust to pay an

enhanced level of school fees to

"However, the trust now

faces the prospect of being

without tax refunds in future

in which case the trust will

have to reduce all fee pay-

ments. This will not have any

before April 1, 1997, but it will

impact on payments made on

He goes on to ask clients to

write to their own Member of

Parliament to try to have the

Ms Feek said: "We do not

think clients in educational

action. Despite the more dis-

advantageous tax position on

the trusts, for those who only

have five years to go before the

child starts education, they can still be useful." She said

ruling overturned.

each of our planholders.

N&P explains why some will lose out

now has to be confirmed by the Building Societies Commission. The hearing takes place on June 3 and members who believe they have been unfairly excluded or are otherwise dissatisfied will be able to attend in person or write to put their case. Written representations must be received by May 13. If all goes according to plan, the takeover will take place on August 5 and payouts will

follow in September. Who gets what payout can seem complicated to members, but the deciding factor is how long you have been with the N&P.

Savers of less than two years' standing will receive £500 worth of free Abbey National shares. To qualily, they have to have had a share account with more than £100 invested on April 28, 1995 and December 31. 1995. Borrowers will also get £500 of Abbey shares if they had mortgages of more than £100 on April 28, 1995, and continue to do so until the takeover.

Savers who have been with N&P for more than two years will get a larger £750 which they can choose to take either in Abbey shares or in cash.

On top of this they will get a payout of at least 7 per cent of the balance in their account, up to a maximum of £3.500 on a balance of £50,000. Two year savers will have to have had a share account open with more than £100 in it on April 28. 1995 and December 31, 1995 and keep the account open until the take-

The first named holder of a joint account will get the payout. If he or she dies before the takeover, the second named should get

Similarly if the holder of an account in a sole name dies, his or her successor can qualify. However many longstanding N&P members are angry at being excluded from the bonus, while others who joined when the takeover was first rumoured this time last year stand to receive £500 of Abbey National shares.

N&P said its helpline was unable to answer individual questions posed by Weekend Money readers for legal reasons. So The Times approached N&P for answers to some of the letters it has received.

Nigel Samuelson, Powys

other savings plans including Personal Equity Plans, and 'My wife stands to lose a substantial bonus because I offshore bonds could be more transferred our joint account into her sole name last October, a few days before the terms of the transfer were announced. I did so when my wife was seriously ill to try to equalise our estates. The effect is manifestly unjust as our savings with the society derived primarily from the surplus equity in our home when we moved." In a letter to Lord Shuttleworth, N&P

elaborates "Last October, a few days before the terms of nounced, I transferred my share in a joint account with my wife ... Consequently as I was the first named, it appears my wife has forfeited her entitlement to any variable distribution To lose in excess of £2,500 is a loss we can ill afford. I would submit to you that the first named rule in the prospetus is also against the spirit of equal opportunity as it discriminates against women. In my own case, had my wifetransferred her share in our account to me it would have had a nil effect as far as entitlement to any variable

N&P says: "It is true Mrs

Times

WITH PROFITS H

A worry-fr

Samuelson will forfeit her payout". [She will not qualify for the variable payout to members of more than two years standing because she was not a member in her own right on the joint named ac-count and has been a member in her own right on the sole named account for less than two years. Nor will she will not get the £500 fixed distribution either because she did not have an account open as a member on April 28 1995.1 We feel really bad about these people. But our branches were not able to comment land advise the Samuelsons against moving accounts for legal reasons. We did produce a leaflet advising people of the significance of joint named accounts but only after October 16 when we published the terms of the merger. The branches wouldn't have known anv details before then."

Dr R. I. Watson, Sussex "I have been a customer of the N&P for some years, using it for depositing money against future tax liabilities. As luck would have it I went into my branch on December 27. 1995, and "withdrew" by cheque a sum which reduced my balance below the magic £100 level. However, since this was the holiday period the cheque did not arrive in my bank until January 3, 1996, and cleared until January 8, 1996. It is my contention therefore that I fulfilled N&P's requirement..."

N&P replies: "As soon as a cheque is drawn on a building society account, the withdrawal happens and the money is deducted from the account. Building society cheques are not like bank cheques and they can be treated like cash. There will always be people who nature of cut-off dates. The E100 minimum is specified in the Building Societies

SARA MCCONNELL

Caroline Merrell on the Inland Revenue decision to change the treatment of educational trusts

Revenue gives parents a caning

with children in private education will have to pay higher fees after a shock decision by the Inland Revenue to change the taxation of educational

Many trusts are set up as charities which allows them to pay out school fees in a taxefficient manner. Parents or grandparents can pay a lump sum in to a trust run by an insurance company or financial adviser. The trust will then buy annuities - investments which pay a regular income. At present, the income is taxfree. If the Inland Revenue proposals go through unopposed, this income will become taxable.

The Revenue aims to bring in the changes from April next year. Its decision follows a two ity Commission into the charitable status of educational trusts. The commission felt that many of the trusts were set up merely to provide cheaper school fees rather than as charities. Many of the trusts made donations towards particular school facilities to maintain their charitable status.

Hugh Rogers, Charity Commission spokesman, said: "We are of the opinion that the trusts are not essentially chari-

He said the commission had withdrawn the charitable status of five trusts. The trusts are run by the School Fees Insurance Agency (SFIA), the Equitable Educational Trust, the Save & Prosper Educational



Trust, the Castle Educational Trust and the Sun Life Educational Trust.

Mr Rogers said: "Charities are not meant to benefit particular individuals. The charities can appeal against the decision in the High Court if they want to. We think that these organisations no longer qualify for this status. So we will simply remove them from our register. Our ruling comes at the end of a long investi-

Anne Feek, SFIA managing director, said she intended to appeal against both the Revenue and the Charity Commis-sion's decision. She added that although the ruling does come into force next year, it amounts to retrospective legislation.

She said: "We are vigorously defending the case for existing clients. The plan has

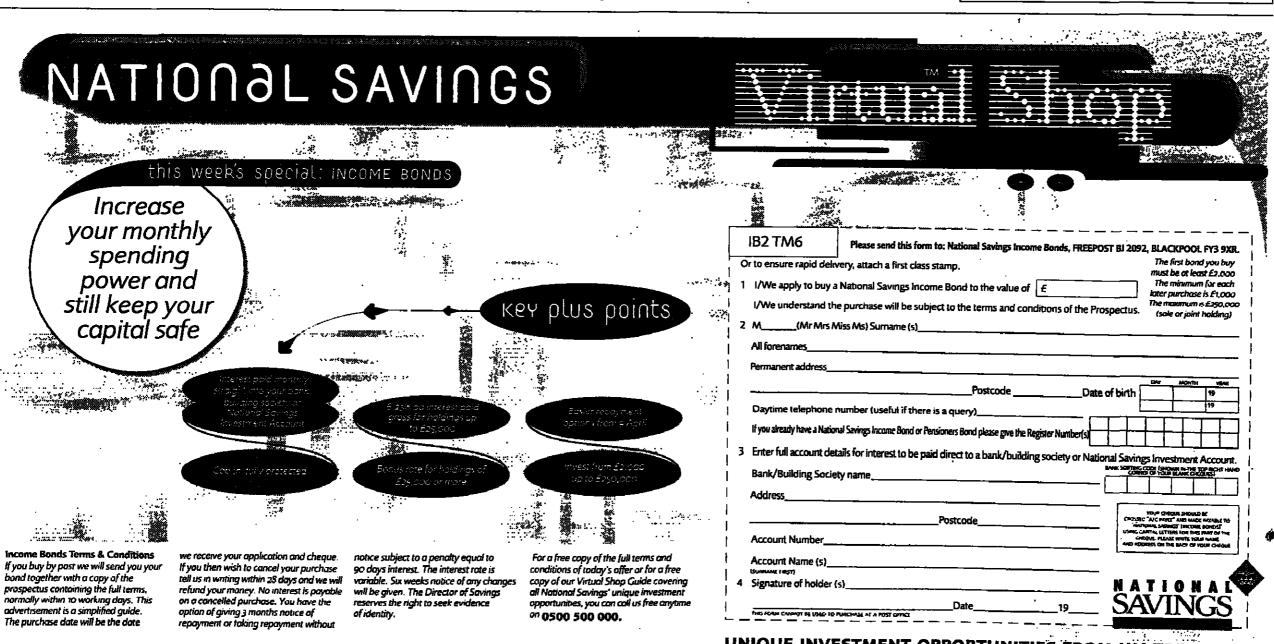
been in operation since 1959. Many people will have invested on the basis that they will get the tax break." She estimated that the ruling could affect about 10,000 of her clients alone.

School fees specialists are unsure exactly what the effect of the ruling will be on the price of private education. But some estimate that it could mean increases of about 8 per cent. The change could be particularly hard on those who have saved for a long time to provide their children or grandchildren with school fees, because the amount invested will be greater.

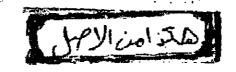
Geoffrey Harrison Dees, chairman of the Sun Life Educational Trust (Slet), has written to clients warning them of the change. In his letter he said: "Since 1952, Slet

appropriate. The Independent Schools Information Service (Isis). which keeps statistics on the independent sector estimated that about 5 per cent of the 500.000 children in private education relied on education-

> An Isis spokeswoman said that the change would have an effect on the ability of parents to fund for the long term education of children.



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P explain The Nhy some will lose out

Cautionary tale of nest-eggs

COMMENT

ike an Aesop's fable, the troubled story of the Ostrich Farming Corporation, now the subject of an official investigation, is a cautionary tale. It would appear to hold lessons for investors, and also for the watchdogs responsible for investor protection.

The precepts for investors are simple, obvious even. But it seems that they are easily forgotten, even by the most cautious people. Perhaps they believe that the strict rules governing the promotion of investments apply to every moneymaking scheme, in-cluding those based on ostriches which were, as OFC, boasted, "the cash crop of the Nineties."

To ensure that you and your cash are not parted for ever, always be suspicious of a company offering higher-



ANNE ASHWORTH Personal Finance

Editor

than-average returns, especially when the company

involved is not an authorised investment business. The Ostrich Farming Cor-

poration promised returns of 50 per cent plus, a figure that the most talented fund manager can only dream of achieving. As it dealt in alternative investments, the company did not need a licence from one of investment regulators. This means that, whatever fate in holds in store for

OFC, the outcome of the investigation not being known, its hapless customers are not covered by any compensation scheme.

It could be argued that anyone putting the proceeds of a matured Tessa into such an untried venture, as likely to prove to be a turkey as a nest egg, deserves to lose their money. But this would excuse the lamentable failure of the authorities to alert the public to its concerns about OFC.

ing their role to ensure that there is no repetition of the delays seen in this sorry episode. More than a year ago, the Department of Trade and Industry knew that OFC's operations were causing considerable disquiet. But they stood idly by, allowing the company to trade merrily

The very survival of the company instilled confidence in aspiring investors who mistakenly believe that the powers-thatbe intervene as soon as searching questions are

on, attracting more than a

million a month.

raised about an enterprise. It is, of course, essential to gather as much information as you can about an investment before signing a cheque. However, the DT1

ened legal action. They did get

£500 of their deposit back, but

Diana Hanks, of the Timeshare Council, said many

who had complained to her

faced losing deposits of thou-

sands of pounds. Ian Smith, of

the MAC, said he was going to

He said: "The complaints

£20 BANK / EINGELA

against the company are unjus-

fight the OFT investigation.

are in dispute over the rest.

possesed information about OFC that the average individual could never have gleaned. There is, for example, the identity of one of its salesman. Paul Prew-Smith, a resident of sunny Marbella. His previous business, the Southport-based Fisher Prew-Smith, now failed, dealt in home-income plans. The official Investors Compensation Scheme has paid out more than £13 million to 1,000 of his elderly victims.

As well as keeping investors in the dark, the DTI would not help The Times in its inquiries over OFC. Let us hope that when it concludes its investigation into OFC it will not be so disobliging. Or we will be able to conclude that, although ostriches may actually not bury their heads in the sand, is a habit among

do not check out when they get home, which means that high-

He said he now arranged

with the timeshare companies

he dealt with to acknowledge

the faxed quote, after earlier

requests from trading stan-

CAROLINE MERRELL

dards officers.

er costs could be incurred."

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Timeshares use cheap loan lure

from the credit card. The

picture changed when the

Fishers returned to Britain.

They were visited by an MAC

representative who provided

them with a remortgage rate quote which was higher than

the earlier quote provided at

their deposit back, the

timeshare company threat-

When the Fishers asked for

nwary foreign time-share property buyers may find their deal looks less attractive when they return home. Some mortgage brokers are promising families that they can remortgage their homes to raise money to buy the timeshare and, at the same time, cut their monthly outgoings. The lure of a lower mortgage can help to clinch the deal. Yet some timeshare buyers are finding that the rates offered abroad are lower than the rates they have to pay at home.

Within the past few weeks, the Office of Fair Trading has launched an investigation into one of the companies now operating in this field, the Mortgage Advice Centre, based in Leicester.

The OFT has taken the unusual and serious step of issuing a notice saying that it is "minded to revoke" the MAC's credit licence. If the Office of Fair Trading puts a "minded to revoke" notice on a credit broker, the company has to submit a defence before an adjudicator. Investigations can take several months.

The OFT moved to take action after dozens of complaints to trading standards quotes used by the centre, which were faxed over to holiday resorts, while the holidaymakers were being sold timeshare apartments in the popular resorts in Majorca, Minorca and Tenerife. The experiences of Margaret and Michael Fisher from Swindon are typical of many of those dealing with the MAC.

The couple were in Minorca when they were subjected to several hours of hard sell by a timeshare salesman who said they could reduce their overall mortgage outgoings, and still buy a timeshare worth £9,000. The couple were attracted by the deal. They were paying about £320 a month for a £40,000 mortgage on their home, which is worth about £100,000. The Mortgage Advice Centre told the Fishers that they could reduce their costs to about £230 a month.

Mrs Fisher, a teacher, said: "The company asked for a deposit of £1,200, which we did not have there and then, so we agreed they would take £200 off our Visa card, and take further instalments when there was enough credit available." The timeshare company took a further two instalments Most grievances totalling more than \$1,000



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Investigators move. on ostrich traders

The future does not look bright for investors with the Ostrich Farming Corporation (OFC). The company was ordered to cease trading by the High Court last week, and it is now the subject of a three-pronged investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Ad-

vertising Standards Authority and the Serious Fraud Office. The potential cost to investors could be enormous. The OFC ran an extremely effective marketing campaign in the later months of last year. It took in £5.5 million between October and the end of December, and the money kept rolling in through March. It is estimated that at least 3,000

people could be affected. Many investors feel that they have been kept in the dark by the Department of Trade and Industry, which filed a winding-up petition ten days ago. Although the DTI's actions have been far from hasty, it has not stated its reasons for the petition. Now. with a court hearing pending on May 8, neither the DTI nor

the company can comment. It is possible that the com-pany will be cleared by the courts and that it will be able to continue trading. But whether it will ever be able to return to business as usual is

If the court case fails, it will be a great embarrassment for the DTI. If the case succeeds,

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Karen Zagor takes a look at the

controversy building over the Ostrich Farming Corporation

The Times discovered this week that the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief City regulator, conducted

the DTI may find itself even more embarrassed. covered by the protective umbrella of the City regulators and are not eligible for compensation through the Investors Compensation Scheme. Meanwhile, investors do not

chairs, a chaise longue, the microwave and filing cabinets complete with their contents were gone. We were told the stuff had gone to marketing

offices in Ollerton." The Ostrich Sales and Marketing Corporation is based in New Ollerton, Nottingham. Brian Ketchell, OFC's managing director, is secretary and director of the New Ollerton

company. An action group for owners

Karen Zagor takes a look at an off-beat investment that is gaining in

Problems could hatch fr



Early warning: in late December, The Times was testing claims of huge returns

its own investigation and passed its papers on to the DTI early in 1995. SIB could do nothing itself because the investment structure kept the OFC outside the SIB's remit. Yet it appears that the DTI did not even start its own investi-

gation until November. The bulk of investors bought OFC ostriches between late 1995 and April this year. They had no way of knowing that the company was under investigation. While the Advertising Standards Authority, which is conducting a separate investigation into OFC's advertisements, openly announces its investigations, the DTI has a policy of not commenting until it acts. Despite repeated inqui-ries by The Times, which has been concerned about the activities of the OFC since De-

anything. It might be helpful if the DII were to adopt a policy similar to that in the US where the Securities and Exchange Commission publishes a litigation release, which explains the substance of its complaint in clear English, whenever it

cember, the DTI refused to say

takes a company to court.

Investors with the OFC stand to lose everything. Their money was used to buy ostriches, not shares. Investments in animals are not

International hunt for Ostrich Farming

Egg cracks: by April this year, investors were worried

know how their birds are faring. Nor can they be certain that there is a sufficient number to go around. For the moment, the Official Receiver is acting as provisional liquidator for the company, following a request by the President of the Board of Trade. The Receiver's job is "to protect and preserve the assets and financial records of the company" until the petition is heard. The SFO's involvement underscores the seriousness of the case.

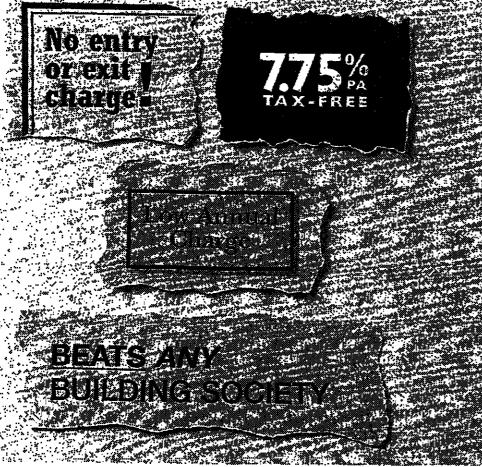
Inquiries by The Times this week indicated that important documents went missing from OFC's Nottingham headquar-ters in the days before the Receiver moved in. A former employee said: "When we got in on Monday, the fridge/-freezer, the coffee maker, two

Move to wind up ostrich farming company

Final act: winding-up nears

is being formed by Stephen Whitmore of Wilsons, a Salisbury firm of solicitors, tel: 01722 412979. A tape-recorded message from the Receiver's office is on 0171 637-6605. The Insolvency Service number is: 0171 637-1110.

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*Sources: Micropal, buying price to selling price, gross income reinvested from lamich (or closest available date on Micropal) to 1.4.96. Schroder UK Growth Fund plc 1st out of 9 stace 2.5.94. Schroder UK Enterprise Fund 1st out of 105 since 1.8.88 cover five years. 3rd out of 124). Schroder Income Fund 1st out of 6 since 3.1.72 (over five years 5th out of 73). Schroder Smaller Companies Fund 1st out of 13 since 1.6.79 (over five vears 25th out of 56).

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Richard Thomson reports on the uncertainty plaguing American investors

Richard Thomson reports on Bonds fall Taden Bonds fall TOWN to prey to US market sentiment

Tou could hardly have got it more wrong if you tried. Jeffrey Vinik. tried. Jeffrey Vinik, manager of the \$56 billion Magellan Fund, America's largest mutual fund, loaded up with bonds at the worst moment. One day last February he poured millions into the market only hours before the worst single-day rout bonds had seen for eight years.

Since then, things have got worse. Something nasty is going on in the US bond market and Mr Vinik is only one victim. Bond prices were hammered again in March and yet again nine days ago. The yield on the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond, which rises as prices fall, has lurched from below 6 per cent to within a whisker of 7 per cent in a few weeks.

What has happened is that there has been a sharp change in sentiment over US interest rates. Bond prices usually fall on the back of what most people regard as good news. and so it has been recently.

Figures showing a sharp rise in employment suggested that the economy was stronger than expected, which in turn implied a rise in inflation, which further suggested that interest rates would have to rise to keep inflation under

Bonds hate rising interest rates, so bond prices fell. That is all a radical change from a couple of months ago when everyone was expecting interest rates to fall (which is why Mr Vinik piled into the bond market so disastrously).

The sell-off has been so sharp that it has prompted comparisons with early 1994 when a sudden change in market sentiment over interest rates sent bond prices into a nosedive.

Some analysts believe yields could still rise a lot further, to around 7.25 per cent in the near future.

At the same time, the stock market seems to have lost some of its bullishness, too. rising interest rates triggered an 80-point fall in the Dow

Jones industrial average last Monday, but most of the market felt confident that prices would recover almost immediately. They didn't, Instead they fell for several days. pulling the Dow down 200 points, or nearly 4 per cent.

To many in the markets, the stock market's fall was necessary to catch up with bonds. They argued that the traditional relationship between the two markets had fallen out of sync in the last few weeks, and if bonds were not going to rise then shares had to decline.

Indeed, there is a growing number of market operators who believe that the bull market in shares has at last ground to a halt.

The market has been overvalued for a long time," says Michael Metz, the equity strat-egist at Oppenheimer, the fund management group. "The market is in for a longterm decline."

What is particularly worrying is that for the first time in a long time the fall in prices has been broadly-based rather than concentrated in only a few big stocks.

Most of the bears expect a setback of at least 10 per cent

on the Dow - anything less

would hardly count as a

serious correction. Last week

the market made half of that

decline, but a further fall could

feed a crucial element of panic

At the moment, however,

panic is one thing that is

signally lacking.
In fact, if you look at the amount ordinary investors are

putting into the market you

might think we are still in the

middle of the greatest bull

market this century. A stag-

gering \$23 billion poured into a mutual fund (the US equiva-

into the market.



Over there: Tony Blair's trip to America underlines its importance to UK investors

gest monthly inflow, was still The pessimism in the bond slightly lower than in Februmarket, thinks Blood, has ary. This gives great hope to simply been overdone, "Bonds will probably go sideways for the market optimists. All that money, after all, few months, with yields staying between about 6.5 per should help to buoy the mar-

ket. They also believe that, cent and 7 per cent." That, he believes, is the although worries about rising interest rates are growing, there is no reason for share or worst that is likely to happen. After a few months, bond bond prices to collapse. prices will then start to rise as "I'm not sure this is the start the danger of rising interest of a major decline," says rates passes and the market's fears are calmed. The stock market, meanwhile, will pick Richard McCabe, chief market analyst at Merrill Lynch. itself up, dust itself off and start another rally before the There will be a continuing

bull market because, although

interest rates may rise a bit in

the near future, they will fall

again later in the summer."

That, of course, would give the

bond market some much-

The comparison with the

bond market collapse of 1994 is also false, according to Charles Blood, head of re-

search at Brown Brothers

Harriman. "The elements that

prompted the 1994 fall are not

In particular, what's miss-

ing is an actual rise in short-

term interest rates. In 1994 it

was an increase in rates by the

Federal Reserve Board that

triggered the fall. This time the

has done nothing so far.

needed encouragement.

here this time."

The market has been overvalued

for a long time. The market is in

for a long-term decline

lent of unit trusts) in March and short-term rates have

which, although the third big-stayed steady.

summer is out. This is a persuasive point of view. Everything depends, of course, on what inflation does but there is not much evidence that it is about to burst out of

Certainly, the Fed is unlikely to lower interest rates any time soon but it is disappointment over that which seems to have sent the bond market into decline as much as any fear of rising rates. If the bond market realises this and levels out, the stock market should also regain heart.

The timing of all this, as always, is hard to predict. It is probably a mistake to start buying US stocks or bonds just yet, particularly while the markets are so turbulent. A waiting policy may be best for the next week or two while the real direction of the markets becomes clearer.

Sooner or later, however, it ought to be time to start looking around for bargains again after the price falls. Happy hunting.

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Sting taken out of vet fees

THE huge rise in the cost of of claims made in any one veterinary surgeons' fees means treating sick or injured. pets is becoming expensive and a number of insurance companies have set up policies to cover surgery, kennelling and liability costs for

animals. NFU Mutual has just launched a horse and pony policy for riders involved in show-jumping, hunting or hacking. Unaffiliated showjumping or riding club activities are covered within the lowest class of use and prepaid show entry fees of up to £500 are also covered should a horse be stolen or die before

an event. The increase in veterinary fees means cover has been increased to £2,000 per incident regardless of the number

year. This also includes provision for up to £500 of alternative treatment, such as equine osteopathy or physiotherapy.

In addition to cover for theft or mysterious disappearance of horses and ponies, cover is now included for rescue, advertising and reward costs of up to £250 each.

Cover for personal liability has been reviewed and the indemnity limit increased to £5 million per occurrence this reflects the current trend of high awards made in personal injury cases.

The policy is suitable for all

horses and there is an optional extension for horse trailers covering not only accidental liability cover while the trailer is not attached to a motor

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22.5 million households are under-insured, according to a survey of 1,000 homes by Eagle Star Direct. This means that £20 billion of property is at risk. The insurance company advises householders to check carefully that their insurance covers the full value of their home contents and to

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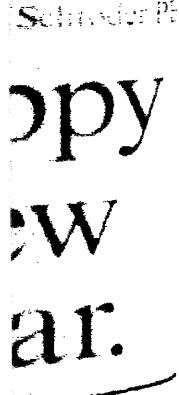




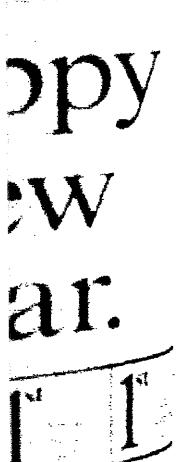
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lor many people personal

pensions are a valuable way of making provi-

sion for retirement. But not

everyone who has been sold a

personal pension in recent

years has reason to be pleased.

They include not only employ-

ees who were badly advised to

leave or not to join an occupa-

tional pension scheme, but

also workers who were wrong-ly recommended to opt out of

the State Earnings Related Pensions Scheme (Serps) into

A critical report concerning

the sale of personal pensions

to employees who opted out of

Serps is due later this month

from the Securities and Invest-ments Board (SIB), the City's

chief watchdog. At the same

time, the Personal Investment

Authority (PIA) is preparing to

toughen its stance towards life

assurance companies and in-

dependent advisers which are

dragging their feet over the on-

going review of their sales of

overdue, is not expected to

demand a mandatory review this time round, but will

suggest some form of voluntary redress procedure. Its

research has indicated that a

relatively small proportion of

employees who opted out of

Serps were actually given bad

advice, possibly no more than 5 per cent — though this could

still involve around 300,000

people. It has also been found

that the scale of losses suffered

by individuals as a result are

only likely to run into a few

The problems of personal

pension mis-selling date back

to 1988 when the Government

first allowed employees the

option of contracting out of

Serps into personal pensions.

ing to "privatise" a good chunk

of this part of the state pension

scheme. So on top of offering

to rebate National Insurance

contributions into a personal

pension plan, an extra 2 per

cent incentive was added for

the first five years. The gener-

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SIB's report, already long

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the mis-selling saga drags on Helen Pridham says regulators

Watchdogs show their teeth as

are planning tougher measures to ensure justice is full and final

osity of these terms, plus aggressive marketing by pension providers, led to over five million people contracting out of Serps.

Two groups of workers who may have been wrongly advised to contract out were those on low earnings and people above certain age limits. The largest category is expected to be those on incomes of, say, significantly less than £10,000 a year, whose rebates were relatively small and who took out pension plans with companies that imposed high charges.

Particularly hard hit are those who lost their jobs or stopped working two or three years after opting out, before their policies had acquired much value. Some companies continue to levy fixed charges even when no rebate is being invested, so the value of the

SIB's report, long overdue. will suggest some form of voluntary redress

policy is eroded. Older workers may also be affected. Those who contracted out when they were much past certain ages about 45 for men and 40 for women (though some companies suggested higher age limits) - may find their rebate pensions have not had enough time to grow.

The regulators are expected to recommend that people who have suffered a loss could be provided with redress on a voluntary basis. This is unlikely to satisfy consumer groups and there are even those in the pensions industry who are doubtful about the idea.

Alan Jenkinson, pensions expert and director of policy at Sedgwick Noble Lowndes, insurance brokers, says: "It would be jolly unfair if it was felt that this problem could be swept under the carpet just because the sums involved are small. For those concerned, particularly if they are low earners, the amounts are important and will be even more so by the time they reach

retirement. The problem with making redress voluntary is that the best companies which have probably not done so much harm will volunteer, while the companies which have really rooked people will not.

However, there may be a simpler way of dealing with the matter than calling for a full review, such as letting companies pay a flat amount into policies that are affected. Philip Telford, senior re-

Association's Money Group, said: "We would not be happy with any proposal by the regulators which resulted in anything less than those who had been mis-sold a personal pension in place of Serps receiving proper compensa-tion. But if another, quicker solution to the problem can be found than a mandatory review, then this may be better for everyone involved - consumers and the pensions industry alike.

"We would certainly be disappointed to see a repeat of the difficulties which have arisen with the review of pension transfers and opt-outs. We hope that lessons have been learned and that any potential problems have already been thrashed out."

Next week the PIA is expected to announce a range of penalties it will impose on those which it identifies are not doing enough. These will include reprimands and fines. Offenders may also have to take out press advertisements setting out disciplinary charges against them.

PLA will also be publishing a list of companies that have agreed to waive their limitation rights, so that investors do not lose their legal rights because of the six-year time limit. Most life assurance companies are still extremely nervous about discussing what headway they are making with the pensions review.

One exception is Barclays Life. Nigel Jerome, who is heading up Barclavs review



Workers on low pay are likely to be hardest hit

team, says "We have nothing to hide. We have accepted there is a problem and are anxious to put things right as soon as we can. We have a dedicated team of 55 who are working aggressively to get through the review.

He says that Barclays Life has identified a total of 2,700 transfer cases and 12,000 optouts and non-joiners which have required review. So far 550 cases have been fully reviewed and all these investors have received or been offered compensation.A fur-

ther 600 cases are awaiting reinstatement to public sector pension schemes

Around 1,300 cases have been reviewed and the cases. closed where Barclays has. found, after writing to employers, that either there was no occupational pension scheme in existence or the investor was not eligible to join.

The largest amount of compensation paid out so far has been £86,000, but the average is around £6,000. Mr Jerome believes the average will fall to

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earn it - and spend it. Of course, what you could be doing is taking this fortune and turning some of it into another fortune - the one you want to end up with

But you'll probably say you've been too busy to attend to this yourself ... or perhaps managing money today just

Then there's the myth that somewhere out there - If only you could find him is a friendly, honest person who is going to give you sound and impartial advice on what best to do with your hardextract money.

THE REALITY IS somewhat different. The person you are looking for may not exist! Unless you are already a militonaire - or close to it there is virtually no such thing as top quality independent linancial advice

The shocking fact is that most professional advisers are, on the whole, just simply not much good at what they do.

Take investing in the Stockmarket. Common research clearly shows that most professional investors and advisers such as stockbrokers and unit trust managers - actually do more poorly

than the Stockmarket as a whole. IN FACT the widely-accepted Random Walk theory says that you will beat the pros at picking shares by simply blindfolding yourself and sticking a pin

in the share table in your newspaper. incredible, but true. Look at unit trusts. The vast majority of them underperform the Stockmarket in general over time. They would have

actually lost you money compared to mying shares at random! So the question is: Why pay fat commissions and "management fees"

to have a so-called professional manage

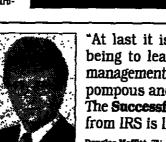
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Douglas Moffitt, TV and Radio Financial Commentator

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THE TIMES SATURDAY APRIL 13 1996

Sarah Jones assesses the ups and downs of a popular investment plan

Step with care into escalators

A nyone trailing round the shopping centre with a toddler will know that as soon as you have gone up the up escalator you have to look for the down escalator. Investors should bear that in mind when considering the ever-popular escalator bonds. Their capital may not actually go down the down escalator, but there are a few monsters under the up side.

GUARANTEES

Escalator, or step-up, bonds run for three to five years. occasionally longer, and offer an interest rate that is guaranteed to rise, or step up, each year. Interest is paid yearly, or monthly at a slightly lower rate. "All that's happening is that providers are masking lousy current rates with better future rates, in the sure knowledge that rates are going up anyway," says James Higgins of financial advisers Chamberlain de Broe.

Banks and building societies make much of their escalator bond rising to an outstanding rate" of 9 or 10 per cent in the final year of the bond. They fail to point out that such high rates are more than balanced by low initial rates. It is in the final year that bonds often make a much bigger leap and allow providers to make grand claims. A bond can look more attractive because of a high final rate but averaged out, to take into account lower initial rates, and it is not such a good deal.

Rates are invariably quoted as gross but, unlike the riskier investment bonds, escalator bonds are taxable. So an average rate of 7.06 per cent becomes 5.65 per cent net.

period. Withdraw your investment before the three, four or five-year term is up and you have to pay a hefty penalty. Typically £187 mid-term on a £5,000 balance. No partial withdrawals are allowed and closures are not usually per-mitted within the first year.

Escalator bonds also demand a high minimum investment, sometimes £2,000 but more often £5,000. The exceptions are the Portman and Wool-wich building societies, at £500 and £1,000 respectively. On average, the Portman pay 6.95 per cent gross and the Woolwich 7 per cent.

This week has seen the launch of a market-leading rate from the Cheshire Building Society. Its new escalator bond pays 6.75 per cent gross in year one (6.50 per cent for monthly interest), increasing to 9.25 per cent (9 per cent monthly) in year four. That averages out at 7.75 per cent gross (7.5 per cent monthly) or 6.2 per cent net (6 per cent monthly).

The minimum balance is £5,000 and the early withdrawal penalty is 180 days' interest at 7.5 per cent. "Past experience tells us that the take up of this new bond will be very quick," says Paul Brennan, the Cheshire's marketing manager. "People are uncertain about interest rates and are looking for guarantees. especially guarantees that go

WARNING

Once the term is up on your escalator bond make sure you

SUNALLIANCE TOGETHER WE MAKE SOME ALLIANCE

MINIMUM

WITH A MAXIMUM OF 70% the LOTUS BOND PUTS OTHERS IN THE SHADE

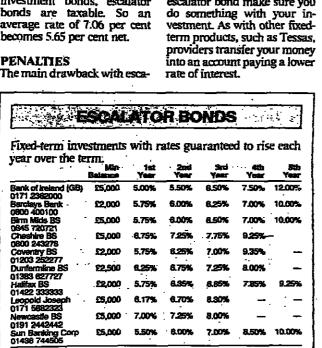
If anything's full of Eastern promise it's the Japanese stock market. You can now take

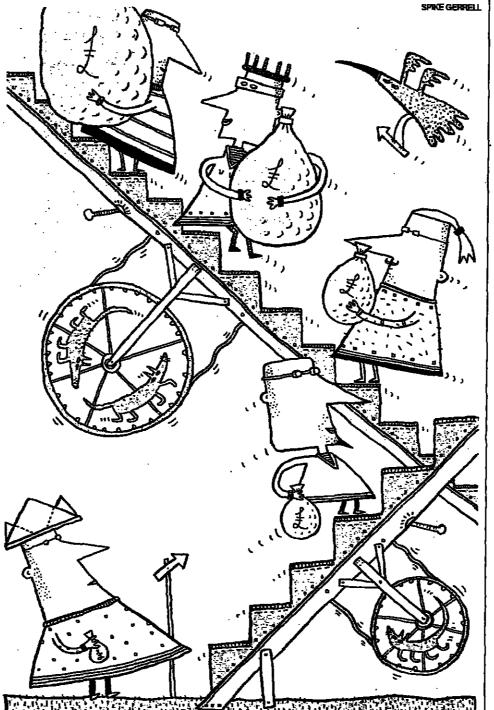
advantage of its great potential without risk to your capital, simply by investing from £5,000 in a Lotus Bond from Sun Alliance Investments On-line. After 5 years, you're

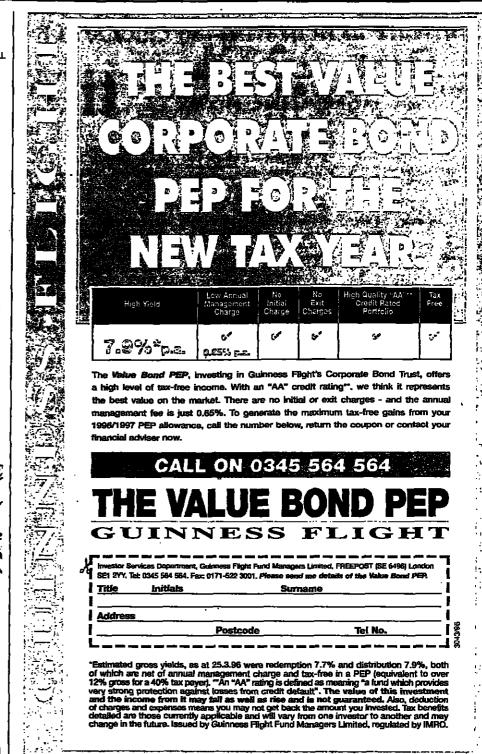
guaranteed to receive back your initial investment plus 35%, or half the growth in the Nikkei Stock Index 300, up to a maximum of your initial investment plus 70%. (Japanese stock market growth is measured by the performance of the Nikkei 300.) The

Lotus Bond uses an average of the daily Index value over the last 24 months of your investment to calculate your final return to avoid the effect of any falls. As funds for the

Lotus Bond are limited, we suggest you register now by calling us on the number below.







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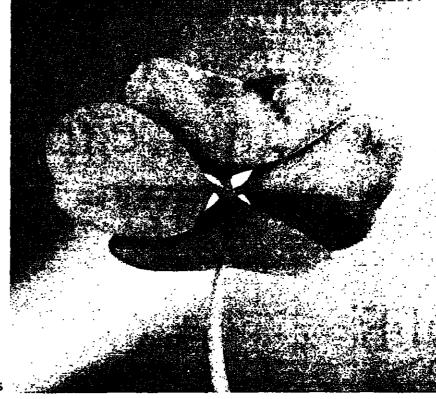
drawal per quarter. This means First Direct customers can now get both a savings account and the option of instant access four times

On balances of £1,000 or more the new accoun gives better rates of interest than the big banks. It Day Notice Account and comes with a quarterly interest statement

NOP research shows First Direct customers are more likely to take a savings products. Ninety per cent of First Direct account customers have some form of savings against 68 per cent of all current account holders.

If illness stopped you working, the State might be unable to help.

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The fact is, the country's

pockets aren't deep enough for all the welfare demands we make. And this can include support during illness.

it's not about politics. It's about the way this country - and much of Europe - is developing. According to the experts, more and more of us are living to a greater age. Yet on average, we're tending to have fewer children. You can imagine the financial burden this puts on the shrinking number of taxpayers - and consequently, the State's coffers.

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forward? There's one simple and sensible answer. You can talk to an independent financial adviser, right now.

You'll get expert advice on your future finances. And because that advice will be impartial, you can be sure you'll get the right answer for your individual circumstances. So call us today on the number below for a free information pack. Because some things are too important 0117 971 1177 to trust to luck.

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THE STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE P

Software to help with tax calculation

TOO many people are paying too much tax, according to the Consumers' Association, but because their records are incomplete they are unable to check exactly how much they should be paying (Marianne Curphey writes).

However, from now on you are legally obliged to keep a record of all income and capital gains in case you have to complete a tax return.

The Consumers Association has put together a computer package called TaxCalc 1995-96 which claims to reduce the work involved in calculating tax and complying

M. As a PEP, all income is completely free of tax

ncome Plus is structured to quard against the eroson

ne is paid MONTHLY direct to your

with Inland Revenue requirements. On-screen prompts ask you to supply details of your income and outgoings and TaxCalc works out the minimum you are legally obliged to pay the Inland Revenue, and how much the Revenue may owe you.

The programme also lets you display and amend your figures, so you can judge the effects of changes in your circumstances. If you have a printer. you can print out your own Inland Revenue-approved tax returns and partners can even work simul-

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If you have £6,000 to invest, Commercial Union's Monthly Income Plus PEP offers you a high rate of regular monthly income.

COMMERCIAL UNION

ber that past performance is not necessarily a guide to tulure returns. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up

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includes an introduction to the Revenue's new policy of self-assessment and the CD-Rom version of TaxCalc includes the Inland Revenue video on self-assessment.

The programme also features the full text of a number of Inland Revenue tax advice leaflets on topics such as company cars, separation and divorce, and pensions.

TaxCalc also includes a comprehensive glossary and over 45 tax-saving tips. It costs £29.99 or £24.99 for members of the Consumers' Association and is available by calling taneously on two returns. It Freephone 0800 252100.

A funny old game, but the club's done well

Sarah Jones

looks into

the pros and

cons of

investing in football

shares in football clubs has been as exciting as the players' performances on

As Manchester United moved ever closer to the FA Carling Premiership title, and with it the promise of riches in the European superleague, so its shares added 40p. And as Millwall sank to-

wards the relegation zone, its shares took another dive. Meanwhile stockbrokers

have report an unprecedented amount of interest in the Cheisea launch on the Alternative Investment Market.

Football clubs are becoming more and more like proper businesses, helped by lucrative television deals, corporate hospitality and strong merchandise sales.

"More clubs are realising that they have got a brand with value and are starting to market that brand," said Justin Urquhart Stewart, of Barclays Stockbrokers.

Those that are doing well are in fact no longer football clubs but sports and leisure companies," he added. The latest float on the Alternative Investment Market (Aim) -Chelsea — is a case in point.

Investors are buying into not just the football club but Chelsea Village Plc, its parent company, which also has catering, clothing and hotel subsidaries. A health club and gymnasium at the ground are due to open soon. It won't be long before the ancillary activities are earning more than the football club," said Robert Ellis, Chelsea's stockbroker.

Mr Ellis believes that Chelsea has a bright future. He expects its now developing leisure complex to help the club to rival or even surpass Manchester United. Stockbrokers are surprised by the amount of interest in the Chelsea





Share boosters: Manchester United's Ryan Giggs, left, and Chelsea's Rund Gullit show on-pitch success is reflected in the price

launch. "The first day we had 400 purchases at Barclays. now it's down to 40 a day but that is remarkable for small market stock," added Mr

Urquhart Stewart. The other clubs quoted on Aim are Glasgow Celtic (whose shares were floated on the market last September at £60 and are currently priced at £105) and Preston North End, which were floated at 400p and are now priced at 430p.

rumoured to be joining them soon. Floating on the Alternative Investment Market is cheaper than on the stock market but still gives a club a higher profile and the chance to raise finance.

If a club can draw fans on to its share register, through

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a shareholding, the chances are that they will also attend games regularly and buy the ever-changing strip.

There are three clubs Manchester United, Totten-

POLICY 🍫

ham Hotspur and Millwall quoted on the stock market. Spurs' shares were launched in 1983 at 100p, reached a low when they were temporarily suspended in 1990 and then with the Jurgen Klinsmann started

rising. They are now 310p. Shares in Manchester United were offered at 385p in 1991. Within three years they had gained more than £3 and there was a bonus issue of four shares for every one held. This diluted the share price but it has continued to rise, especially as the season reaches its climax. Ten days ago the shares were 287p,

now they are 346p. Millwall's failure is a salutory tale. The shares

were issued at 20p in 1989 but relegation and repeated fail-ure to get back into the Premiership, with all the revenue from higher gates. TV deals and sponsorship that the top flight brings, has seen the shares slump to 212p. It still matters what a team does on the field. The greater the reliance on football income, the more volatile the share price will be. But with a club like Manchester United, which is running as a sport and leisurewear company, the share price will be more stable," said Mr Urquhart

That leaves all the other clubs. Many will be quoted on Ofex (the unregulated offexchange market). Transactions are on a matched buyer basis through a stockbroker - if you want to buy 50 willing to sell them.

The smaller the club, the more difficult that will be contacting the club secretary to see if anyone wants to sell. So should we invest in football clubs? "Only if you are a devoted fan," said Mr Urquhart Stewart. "Manchester United and Spurs have proved good invest-ments, but with most clubs you'd be better off showing your love and devotion by purchasing a scart."

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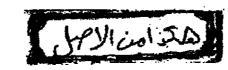
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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

IC, by Barclays launches schools software

BARCLAYS Bank has ing out on as much as £600 million a year in unclaimed banking package. There are currently 200 Barclays school banks operating enabling children to complete most of the transactions available in a high-street branch, such as

paying in their money and requesting a statement.

The PC-based package will provide an additional way for pupils to access their account. at the same time as learning about finance and money management. For more infor-mation, call 0800 400100.

☐ A guide to pensions, Peps, endowment mortgages and other ethical investment plans has been published by Eiris, the Ethical Investment Research Service Money & Ethics examines the ethical policies of 28 unit and investment trusts and compares the funds against a common set of criteria, with topics ranging from water pollution to animal testing. The handbook includes a step-by-step guide to choosing the fund that most closely meets your ethical needs. Send a cheque for El2.50, payable to Eiris, 504 Bondway Business Centre, 71 Bondway, London SW8 ISQ.

☐ Pensioners could be miss-

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gain to the first

welfare benefits, according to Help the Aged's latest booklet, Can You Claim It? The booklet emphasises that it is important to claim, even if a pensioner is only entitled to a small amount, as it is the passport to a range of other benefits including free dental treatment and sight tests.

The charity has also pro duced a Claiming Disability
Benefits guide, which provides
details of the benefits that are
available for senior citizens
who are sick or disabled, and for their carers.

For a free copy of both booklets, send a self-addressed envelope to: The Information Department (Bens), Help the Aged, St James's Walk, London, ECIR OBE.

☐ The Ernst & Young Tax Saver's Companion 1996 pro-vides up to date tax information, including changes announced in the November 1995 Budget and 1996 Finance Bill. The guide highlights tax-saving opportunities and of-fers advice on self-assessment and financial planning. Available in bookshops from April 25, priced at £9.99.

LIZANNE ROSE

PERSONAL LOANS

Yorkshire Bank 0113 2315324

Direct Line 0141 2489966 Midland Bank 0800 180180

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interes paid
Portman BS 01202 292444 Skipton BS 01756 700511	Instant Access High Street	Instant Instant	£100 £2,500	4.80	
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Gt Nth Postal	Postal	£2,300 £5,000	5.10 6.25	Yığ A/Yış
Leeds & Holbeck BS 0113 2438292	Albion	Postal	£10,000	5.60	Yi
	-	Notice			Interes
NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	paic
Nrwch & Ptrorgh BS 01733 391497	Postal 10	10 day p	£10,000	6.10	Yh
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£2,000	5.45	Υh
Scarborough BS 0800 590578	Scarborough 75	75 day	21,000	6.30	Y) Y) Y)
Chelsea BS 0800 272505	120 Account	120 day	£25,000	6.75	ΥŊ
		Notice			Interes
FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 уєаг	£8,575	7.40	F/Yly
Cheltenham & Glouc 0800 717505		5 year	23,000	7.25	Yīv
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721 Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year 5 year	£1,000° £25	7.25 7.25	Ylý Yly

REDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
obert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024 obert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024 izzell Bank 0800 373191	MasterCard/Visa MasterCard/Visa MasterCard/Visa	0.92%C 1.00% 1.17%	11.50% 14.00% 16.10%	Nil £12 £11
?	NAL LOANS B	EST BUYS		

14.90% Nb. A = 2% bonus if Account opened by 30.4.96, C = no interest tree period, D = for debt consolidation only, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), G = Annual rate 5% above R Fleming base rate, OM denotes interest paid on maturity, P = By Post only

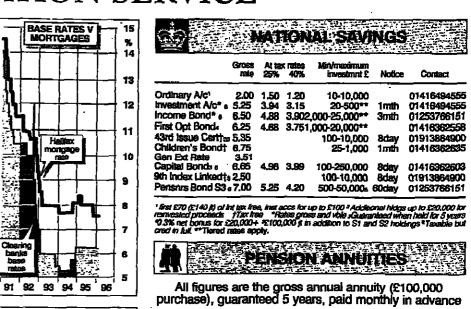
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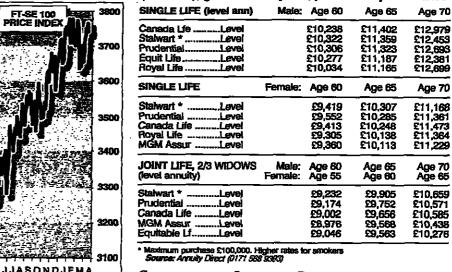
ce: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)

14.60% 14.90%E

Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs
with insurance no insurance £117.68 £114.41 £102.59 £102.49 AMJJASONDJEMA

LARGER LENDERS





COMPILED BY LIZANNE ROSE

		UAL INCOME s at April 11, 1996	
	investment (Σ)	Сотрену	Standard Rate (*
1 Year			
	5,000	AIG Life	5.00
	10,000	AIG Life	5.10
	20,000	AIG Life	5.20
	50,000	AIG Life	5.30
2 Years		•	
	5,000	AIG Life	5.58
	10,000	Premium Life	5.83
	20,000	Premium Life	5.93
	50,000	Premium Life	6.03
3 Years			
	5,000	AIG Life	5.82
	10,000	AlG Life	6.07
	20,000	AIG Life	6.12
	50,000	AIG Life	6.27
4 Years		•	
	. 5.000	AIG Life	6.02
	10,000	AIG Life	6.32
•	20,000	AIG Life	6.42
	50,000	AIG Life	6.47
5 Years		•	
	1.000	Premium Life	5.60
	3,000+	Pinnacle Insur	6.75

FIXED RATE	Gross	Buying price	% Gross yield	issue price	Minimum purchase amount		
Birmingham Midshire	s 9.375%	97.49	9,607	100.17	1,000		
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	119.54	9.713	100.13	10,000		
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	133.83	9.697	100.20	10,000		
Bristol & West	13.375%	138.47	9.643	100.34	1,000		
Britannia	13.000%	132.40	9.802	100,42	1,000		
Coventry	12.125%	125.37	9.648	100.75	1,000		
First National	11.750%	115.14	10.197	100.25	10,000		
Halifax	8.750%	92.74	9.435	100.62	50,000		
Halifax	12.000%	124.67	9.428	100.28	50,000		
Halitax	13.625%	142.73	9.522	100.00	50,000		
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	137.27	9.725	100.23	1,000		
Newcastle	10.750%	113.79	9.435	100.32	1,000		
Newcastle	12.625%	133.21	9.455	100.45	1,000		
Northern Rock	12.625%	135.89	9.271	100.14	1.000		
Skipton	12.875%	133.15	9.652	100.48	1,000		
	Gross	Buyi	no is	STITE .	Minimum		
FLOATING RATE	coupon			rice	purchase		
Cheshire (28/09-21/03)	18.58750%	103.	63 10	0.00	1.000		
First Nat(20/03-20/09)		100		0.00	1,000		
PES = Permanent interest-bearing shares Source ABN AMRO House Govett — 0171 601 0101							

		IN FOCUS - AMEC P IX PROFITS DROP 110
:		50
:	Apr May Jun Jul Aug Se	p Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr

Lender	rate %	Size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West	0.95	£15k+	90	Fixed to 31.1.97
0800 100117				
Northern Rock	0.99	to £100k	90	6.25% discount
0800 591 500				to 1.5.97
Yorkshire 0800 378836	0.74	to £150k	95	6% disc-6 mths,
				2% disc-18 mths
Banks		-4-		
Barclays 0800 494999	3.50	£15k+	90	3.75% discount
NatWest	1.75	£15k+	90	for 12 months 5.50% discount
0800 400999	1.75	LIGHT	50	for 12 months
%	LA	RGER I	OAI	S
	Interest	Loan	Max	<u> </u>
Lender	rate %	size	<u>%</u>	Notes
Building Societies				
Nottingham Imper.	0.49	£15k+	75	Fixd to 31.7.97
0115 9817220	5. 10	2,000		. 50 00 01.11.51
Hinckley & Rugby	0.11	to £150k	70	7.14% discount
0800 774499				for 8 months
Scarborough	0.25	in MEUR	70	Rate fived for

6.75%dsc-8 mths 4.49%dsc-6 mths 5.50% discount

0.71 4.39 3.19	£15k+	95 95	6.54% disc-6 mths 2.5% disc 6 mths 2.86% discount to
4.39	any		2.5% disc 6 mths
	•	95	
3.19			30.6.98
	£30k+	95	3.80% discount for 1 year
0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50% discount for 6 months
3.51	£15k+	95	3.74% discount for 1 year
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AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London EM 9XS 0171 528 8800	UR Opportunity 223.60 236.60 • 1.00 Euro Opportunity 255.60 221.40 - 0.30	Bristol & West (5): (63.70 + 0.10 Pensiot, Pimás	HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Pertury, Presion, Lanca	2nd Property Act 246.50 259.50 2nd Maged 2 Act 194.40 204.60 - 0.30	NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE, SOCIETY - EX NUAM FINDS	SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Audrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 IVE	European 205 40 216 30 - 0.60
Balanced 525.50 556.10 - 200 UK Eguhy 661.20 702.90 - 3.60	North Amer Opp 214.00 227.30 - 5.40 Par East Opp 223.70 236.70 - 4.60 Carth Prop Ser 1 162.40 170.90	Unit With Piles #12 (02.50 + 0.20 Secure (2)	PR2 2PR 91772 841690 Manageo 194.60 204.80 do-Pens 346.90 259.20 v 0.20	2nd Mingd) Act	SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Finds PO Box 40, Norwich NR3 IPP 01603 622200 Managed Pund 1671.20 1759.20 - 0.10	0 3 25 22 Property	Weshin Assured 795-30 817-30 4.40 Ebur Phoenix Eq 526 00 560-30 Property Growth
Property 521.40 551.80 + 0.50 Fixed interest 354.80 375.50 - 1.10	Gth Prop Ser 2 20000 211.60 + 0.20 Pixed Int 211.90 224.20 - 0.30 Cush 166.90 170.00 + 0.10 6.49	Equally Minted (2) : 100.00 + 0.70 Adventantous (2) : 107.70 + 0.10 Brissol & West (2) : 102.20 + 0.20	UK Equity 202.50 213.10 + 0.80 -do-Pens 209.90 252.50 + 1.20 bitemptional 172.20 181.70 + 0.20	2nd Gili Aer 320.90 337.80 - 1,50 2nd Amer Acc 879.30 925.60 -10.30 2nd Insi May Acc 275.00 289.50 - 0.40	Equity Fund 3699.40 3894.10 +10.90 Property Fd 607.10 639.10 + 0.80 Fixed int Fd 638.80 672.40 - 3.40	American 315.70 332.40 - 5.20 Pacific 399.90 421.00 - 4.30	Property Fund : 604-40 - 0.40 - 0.30
Imernational 460.70 487.50 = 3.40	Overses 242.20 256.20 - 1.10 Formerly LAS	EAGLE STARINGDIAND 60 St Mary Am. London ECS. 077 929 1711	-do-Pens (92.50 302.60 + 0.30 Denosis 146.30 (53.90 + 0.10	2nd Index Acr 215.90 227.20 - 0.20 2nd Far East Acc 494.80 520.90 - 2.20	Deposis Fund 370.20 199.70 • 0.30 test Pend 288.90 304.10 • 1.30	International 372.20 391.40 • 0.50 Fixed interes: 252.30 266.60 • 0.20 3	-do-Acc 1 828.80 . • 0.50 . Abbey Nts Fd 1 457.40 . • 0.30 .
ABBEY LIFE Holdenburst Road, Bournemouth BHESAL	Managed Fund 408.10 429.60 - 6.40 UK Equity 679.90 715.70 - 3.40 Property 267.10 281.20 + 0.40	Engle/Miki Uts 337.30 349.50 - 0.70 2.62	40-Pens 176-20 185-40 - 0.20 HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION	2nd Global Acc 201.50 212.10 • 0.50 2nd Euro Acc 184.10 193.70 2nd Japan Acc 200.30 210.90 • 1.40	OLD MUTUAL 2 Bardey Way, Hook, Hann RGZ 9XA 01256 768888	Index Linked	Abbry N21 Acc ? 48 00 • 0.20 Investment FG : 424.20 • 0.40 Livestment (A) : 406.30 • 0.40
01202 292373 Custodian 54 190 200 10 + 0.10 Ethical 54 155.90 164.20 + 1.20	Money Marker 265.00 279.00 • 0.30 Fixed Interes: 312.00 328.50 • 1.00 Japan 384.10 404.40 • 3.40	FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Caste Street, Salatony, Wits SPI 3SE 00722-40384	3 Finshery Avenue, London EC2M ZPA 0771 638 5757 UK Equity Fd 402.70 428.50 + 1.50	2nd Int Cr 9d Acc 177.50 182.60 - 0.40 2nd Cap Gdn Acc 142.70 150.30 + 1,00	Equity Fund Acc 339.40 355.10 • 0.20 Fxd interest Acc 254.40 258.40 - 1.40	Worldwide 143.80 151.50 • 0.10 Pen Worldwide 157.50 165.90 • 0.10	Equity: 1563 10 + 8.20 Equity Acc: 1491,90 + 7.80 Money Fund: 906.70 + 0.40
International 54 222.60 234.40 • 0.20 • Protected Gib S4 120.90 127.30 • 0.30 Asian Partile 221.10 222.80 • 0.70	North America 196.70 207.10 - 4.70 International 387.10 407.50 - 1.70 European 334.70 363.40 - 0.50	01722-417366 Manageri 352-90 371.50 - 0.30 UK Equity 476.30 501.40 + 1.80	North Aptenta 46500 494.70 - 500	LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BSI 6EA 0117 9279179	International Acc 276.30 291.50 • 1 10 Managed Acc 246.70 260.30 • 0.80 Property Acc 219.90 232.00 • 0.20	SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glargow G2 SHN 014) 268 6321	-da-Accs 462-40 - 0.30
European S4 204.30 215.10 + 0.30 Prop F4 Ser 4 378.80 398.80 - 0.10	Far East 161.60 170.20 - 3.50	Stewardship 422-70 443.00 • 3.20 Oversens Equity 133-80 353-50 • L00 North American 184.30 194.00 • 4.50	Deposit Fund 240.90 253.60 • 0.20 Prime Residential 136.00 143.20 European Fund 318.30 338.70 • 0.20	Equity 7	Money Acc 163.00 172.00 • 0.10 Spec Min Acc 255.30 269.40 • 3.70 Ispan Equity Acc 133.60 141.00 • 2.40	Flee Found (39 1877 NT 1864 NG	-do-Acct 411.40 -1.30 Retire Annulty: 1285.60 Interned Annulty: 301.00
Man Ser 4 765.70 806 + 2.20 Conv Ser 4 345.70 363.90 + 0.20	CANADA LIFE 24 Figh Street, Powers Bag, Herts EN65BA 6707 SIZE Equity Growth: 277.86	Pacific Basin 196.40 196.30 + 1.20 European 280.30 295.10 - 0.80	Fixed Incomes: 67.00 71.20 - 0.20 HTLL SAMUEL LIFE	Mixed # 675.20 + 0.30	N Armer Acc 180,00 189,90 - 5,80 Pacific Acc 176,80 186,50 - 2,20 European Acc 222,30 234,50 - 1,30	Safety Fund 256.70 270.30 - 0.30 Growth Fund 270.90 285.30 • 0.10 Opportunity Fd 271.50 288.80 • 0.20 Cash Fund 183.40 193.10 • 0.10	Bldg Soc Ule : 239,70 • 0.23
Money Ser 4 345.40 363.60 • 0.30 · · · · Fixed Int Ser 4 367. 386.40 - 1.20 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Mininged 383.90 404.20 + 1.30 Property 249.10 262.30 + 0.40	Fixed Inverse 252.00 265.30 - 1.30 Index United 176.80 186.20 + 0.10	NLA Yours, Addiscouthe Road, Croydon 8181 486 4385	international * 344.50 0.50 Equity A * 235.70 + 0.30	PEARL ASSURANCE	European Fund 416.30 438.30 - 0.10 Gliss & Fad Int 213.50 224.80 - 0.80 Lades: United Fd 188.80 198.80 - 0.20	SUN LIFE OF CANADA Reciprosity, Reciprosity, Hants RGZ 202
High inc Ser 4 . 783.60 824.90 - 1.40 Indexed int Ser 4 . 222.50 234.30 + 0.40 Japan Ser 4 . 379.70	Gill's First Ins. 255.90 269.30 - 0.50 Engsity 440.40 463.40 - 3.60 Cash 226.40 238.40 - 0.40	FP List Assurance es NM Plant Interes: 572.90 603.00 - 2.40	British Fund 634.00 670.90 + 1.40 International 646.00 683.60 - 0.80	Property A1	The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Pelerboroogh PE2 6FY, 0773: 470 470	International Pd 330.00 347.40 - 0.40 North American 289.60 304.90 - 6.90	Dealing: 01256 841414 Growth Acc : 1712 1015.70
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Last, Posters Bar EN6 IAJ	Cilie Euro Migd 445.30 465.80 • 0.50 Cilie Ind Rd 414.00 425.80 • 0.90 Managed Pund 824.40 867.80 + 4.60 Property Fund 528.70 967.10 • 0.70	Managed 799.30 630.60 .+ 1.90 Deposit 360.40 379.30 + 0.40 Property 478.90 504.60 + 0.70	Carpinal Pand 573.80 607.20 + 0.60 Income Find 793.20 839.40 + 0.30	index Stock A ² 176.60 + 0.30 International A ² 214.90 0.30	Prote Acc (Gress) 326-50 341-70 + 0.30	Property Fund 129:30 136:20 - 0.10 UK Equity 289:10 304:40 + 0.10 UK Stoaffer 289:20 315:00 + 1:90	Managed Acc 1 963.70 + 8.00 Equity Account 2 1397.80 + 15.10 Mangel Fund Acc 440.40 463.60 + 4.10
81787 42311 Equity Fd Acc 1858.50 1954.20 +71.00 Entropean Fd Acc 448.50 472.10 - 0.70	Property Fund 538.70 967.10 • 0.70 Equity Fund 1091.00 1149.30 • 9.80 CON Edged Vd 654.80 689.30 - 1.30	Americian 516-10 543-20 -13.30 Australian 631.70 664-90 +16.90 European 677-20 712-80 - 3.90 Income Acc: 859 10 904.30 - 1.50	Property Series A 474.70 502.40 4.50 Property Units 786.10 825.50 Financial Fund 711.30 752.70 - 2.60	Equity P1 656.10 + 1.30 Fixed latt P1 609.90 0.50 Property P1 339.10 + 0.10	Inv Equity 1400 80 1484.10 • 5.90 Inv Managed 978.20 1029.70 • 0.30 Ret Managed 1119.90 1178.90 • 2.20	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	Equity Pand Acc 606.60 638.30 6.80 Prop Fund Acc 271.30 285.40 0.50 Pixed im Pd Acc 329.70 346.00 4.40
Fixed lat Act 100.00 170.00	Equity Fund 1091.80 149.30 + 9.30 Gp Edged Vd 054.30 689.30 - 1.30 Gp Edged Vd 131.30 149.40 131.30 149.40 10.30 131.30 149.40 10.30 131.30	-do-trist 495.10 S21.10 + 1.00 4.94 International 362.20 381.20 - 1.20	Managed Ser A 632.90 669.80 • 0.50 Managed Units 1138.50 1198.50 • 1.10 High Yield Fund 717.00 758.80 • 1.00	Deposit P: 369.70 + 0.20 Mixed P: 630.20 + 0.40 Index Stock P: 259.60 + 0.60	For Provident Mutual see General Accident PRUDENTIAL	6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 ZYA 0131 556 9181 Mixed 318.50 325.30 + 0.70	Money Pund Acc 233,00 345,30 0.10 Inda-Lak Ses Ac 215,90 227,20 2.10 Pers Pens Acc 1 2198,60 11,10
Inti Managed Act 744.00 783.10 + 3.90 Inti Pad Int Act 363.80 382.90 + 0.10 Japan Fund 283.00 297.90 + 5.00	CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE	Repain Street	Money Series A 304.70 322.50 + 0.20 Money Units 406.90 427.30 + 0.40 Frenthy Dunet 232.30 775.00 + 0.90	IONDON & MANCHESTED	Helbern Bars, Lendon ECIN 2NH 0171 405 9222 Managed 403.10 419.90 • 1.60	Equity 341.80 \$99.80 + 1.70 International 310.20 326.60 - 1.00 Property 236.20 248.70 + 0.30	Pens Mingd Aces 1021.90 1075.70 + 540 Pens Guarantee 280.40 295.20 + 0.50 Pens Equity 390.30 417.10 + 3.60
N American Act 402.70 423.80 - 6.90 Prop Fd Acc 457.10 481.30 • 0.60 Multiple Life Act 1194.60 1357.40 • 6.90	Seatry House: 900 Avelancy Bibst. Milliam Keywer MEE 27kil. 10908-164ibl Property Fund. 165-70. 174-50 Managed Fund. 725.50 - 52.20 Equity Grand. 422.50 - 442.0 + 1.40	Tologo Fined 206.20 743.30 +14.10 UK Equity 862.50 697.30 + 2.60 CCM Vanget Mg 868.00 913.60 + 3.90	Fixed interest 392.80 415.70 - 0.60 Indexed Sets 196.60 208.10 - 0.10 European Purpl 385.10 936.70 - 1.30	ASSURANCE Winsinde Park, Engler ENS IDS, 01342 283456 Inv Trust Cap 1 618.70 + 0.50	PRODENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FOS	Pixed Interest 297.50 280.10 • 0.30 Index United 169.50 199.60 Cash 196.10 206.50 • 0.20	Pens Equity 39-30 417.10 + 360 Pens Property 313.50 330.10 + 0.30 Pens Fixed Int 311.90 328.30 + 1.90 Pens Intl 293.60 309.10 - 0.40
ATTIED DUNKAR ASSURANCE	Equity Fund 422.90 45.20 + 1.80 CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY	GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD	Natural Res 380.40 402.60 +14.90 Far East Fond 737.00 774.90 + 6.10 Strailer Cos 599.60 634.50 + 3.80	-do-Acc1 1100.10 + 1.90 Property Cap1 142.36 0.10 -do-Acc2 242.30 + 0.10	I Signium Street, London WIP ZAP 0171 548 3228 Mamged Fund 938,90 988,40 + 1,90 Squity Fund 1817.90 1913.50 + 9,60	Pormerly Prolific Bail Gwth Mingd 945.60 1006.00 - 1.80 Cash Fund 356.90 375.10 + 0.30	Pens Money 254.20 267.60 • 0.50 Pens Indu-Lukd 207.40 218.30 • 0.50
Swindom SN1 IEL 01793 54514 Fad ini Dep Act 9/3-40 414-20 + 0.30 Equity Act 167000 1757-90 + 2-30	INVESTMENTS Norther Plain, Bristal BS2 0/FL 9/17 9290464	Albem Gate, High Fir, US London Wall, London ECXY SAS. 0871 719 4567 GT Pigm Far East 155.50 174.30 + 3.20 GT Pigm Worlds 566.50 966.40 + 1.60	Special Sits 991.40 625.50 + 6.50 Man Currency 263.90 260.50 + 1.00 Innanese Tech 336.60 156.30 - 6.30	90-A021 333.20 0.90	ind Pund 757.50 797.80 - 0.40	Property Fund 302.20 318.40 + 0.40 Equity Fund 1072.20 1140.70 + 0.30 Fad Interest Fund 503.30 530.40 - 2.60	SUN LIFE UNIT
Equity Acr 167000 1757.90 4 2.50 Property Acx 516.70 575.80 + 2.10 Far East Acx 157.00 775.80 + 2.10 Managed Capital 603.10 634.00 + 0.50 130.60 1336.50 + 1.60	Assurance Funds Sapphire Mixed 333.70 351.30 - 0.20 Rully 204.30 215.10 + 1.10 Pmerald 152.50 180.60 - 0.40	GAN LIFE & PENSIONS	US Smaller Cos 39490 417.90 - 1.00 Pormerly Targer Life Assistance Co Ltd Deposit 261.70 275.60 + 0.20	Equary Cap : 353.20 + 2.20 -do-Acc: 615.30 + 4.60 Internati Cap : 255.60 + 0.30 -do-Acc: 440.50 + 0.80	Cash Pund 385.10 405.40 + 0.30 Pacific Basin 424.80 447.20 + 1.20 N American Rd 344.10 362.30 + 9.20	Injernational 444.70 473.10 - 1.80 High income 846.90 901.00 - 4.20 Far East 699.10 701.20 + 10.40	St. James Barton, Bristol BS99 781, 6117 4624911 Managed Acc 1035.70 1090.30 3.80
OVERSES ACC 1121:50 1180:50 + 1:80	Equity 383.50 403.70 - 0.50 Property 233.70 246.10 + 0.20	Gan House, Harlest, Essex CN428 2EW. 01279 626262	Financial Ser 1 57.40 61.30 - 0.50 Fixed inserest 347.00 365.30 - 2.10	Gtd Deposit Cap : 162.50	Euro Pund	North American 706.00 751.10 -12.40 Special Sits 819.70 872.10 + 6.00	Property Acc 334.40 352.10 + 3.30 Equity Acc 1723.90 1814.70 + 10.90
Amer Equity Acc 1000.90 1085.20 -16.10	Gill & Fired III 216.50 227.90 - 1.40 Indexed Sers 176.60 186.00	Partiallo Acc 781.40 781.40 • 0.30do-lar A 781.30 822.50 • 0.30 UK Equity 470.00 494.90 • 0.40 Cilk Plus 214.60 226.00 • 0.70	Gold 108.90 114.80 + 5.00 Managed 204.80 742.00 + 0.30 Mangel Growth 228.00 240.10 + 0.60	Flexible Cup	STIMERIC FUND 198.10 208.60 - 0.10 ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE	Technology 1051.10 1118.20 - 5.90 Extra Income Rd 460.50 489.90 + 1.80 Grif Fund 516.90 569.90 + 0.20 European 177.70 189.10 - 0.40	Fixed int Act 431.10 453.80 - 1.70 Cash Acr 327.60 344.90 + 0.30 Amer Equity Acc 485.70 511.30 -1000
pistribution Bonds 24.50 5.80	NUb American 292.20 307.60 - 4.50 For East 368.70 388.20 - 2.40 International 282.80 297.70 - 0.20	UK Egelip. 470.00 494.90 • 0.40 Gilt Plos 214.60 226.00 • 0.70 Managed 380.90 369.50 • 0.20	Magd Opp 24L80 254.70 + 1.00 Property 335.50 342.60 Residential Prop 105.60 11(3.0 - 0.40 TSB American 268.30232.60 - 6.00	Capital Growth 2 2022-9013.80 M. &. C. Victoria Road, Chehmsford, Essex CMI IFB 812/6 266266	Peterborough Bosiness Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG, 01753,340000 Mult Grow (45) t 878.20 6.10	Adventurous Mg 245.20 258.40 • 0.80 Secure Mgd 166.70 175,70	Japan Ace 32000 336,90 - 100 Pacific Ace 421.10 443.30 - 4.50 For Eassern Ace 934.90 964.20 + 2.80
AXA FOUTTY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE American Road, High Wycombe, Bucks	Special Sks 437.80 460.90 + 5.30 inti licome 337.80 355.60 - 1.60 American Inc 239.10 251.70 - 5.30	GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rought St. York YO: 1HR. 07904 628982	TSB Brit G=th 1017.60 1071.30 + 1.30 TSB Enropean 322.20 339.20 - 0.30	Aftier Bond Act 540.30 567.40 -13.30	Op Prop 506 531.50 + 0.10 Op Equity 1/68.50 1229.90 + 8.40	Equity Inc Dist 132-50 139.70 + 0.20 4.21 Managed Dist 121-10 122.70 + 0.10 4.76	International Act 697.50 734.30 + 0.10
Reserve Ser 6 170.70 179.60 - 0.70	European 390.90 4(1.50 - 0.80 lapanese 150.20 158.20 - 2.10 25 Ada 413.20 436.00 - 1.30	2 Rougier St. York YO'l HHR. 07904 625962 Managed 241-80 254.00 • 8.10 United Profit 158-40 158.30 • 0.30 UK Equity 357-40 333.10 • 0.20	TSB Incorpt 434.60 457.60 + 1/20 TSB Ind 40.90 520.00 - 0.30 TSB Ind Inc 320.50 337.50 - 1.60	Amer Rec Bond 588.10 617.60 - 7.50 Am Smir Cos Bd 288.20 302.70 - 3.20 Amsrahash Bd 284.80 299.20 + 5.50 Commodity Bond 426.20 447.70 •10.40	Op High Yield 626-80 659.70 - 1.50 Op Managed 946.70 986-50 + 4.10 Op Deposit 414-40 436.20 + 8.40 Inc Gth 339.10 386,90 - 7.90	SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinbergh EH 16 58 U 9131 655 6000	DELIFO DEST 185.20 196.10 - (460
Distribution Set 6 101.80 107.10 + 6.40	with Profits Reg. 179.20 188.70 • 0.20 do Spec. 179.20 188.70 • 0.20 Flexible Retirement Plans Fonds	Paget 18t1 205.00 215.70 - 0.70 Index-limited 172.40 181.40 Cash Deposit 183.00 192.50 + 0.20	TSB Premine 269.60 281.60 - 1.00	Deposit Bond Acc 390.50 39760 • 0.30 Equity Bond Acc 1738.00 1825.00 -12.30	Japan Smir 262.60 276.40 + 5.50 Managed Gth 317.20 333.60 + 2.10	Inv Pol 1 1158.00 1158.00 +10.90 Inv Pol 2 1048.80 1104.10 +10.40	TSB LIFE LTD Chariton Pince, Andones, Hunts, SP10 IRE 01264 345678
North Amer Ser 6 598.40 630.40 - 6.50	Mired 391.40 412.30 + 1.30 Equity 475.10 500.20 -> 2.40	Property 152.70 192.20 + 0.20 International 199.20 309.60 + 0.20 American 206.30 217.00 - 4.50	IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Link Life Centr, Victoria Street, St Albans,	Extra Yid Bd Acc 482.10 506.30 + 1.40 Extra Yid Bd Acc 844.20 586.50 - 4.80 Far East Bd Acc 351.70 359.40 + 2.40	Gill 86.10 90.60 - 0.30 British 43.20 466.50 + 3.50 Global Bond 128.30 135 - 1.10 Global Inc & Gab. 196.20 206.50 - 0.90	Inv Pol 3 995.50 1048.00 + 9.90 Inv Cash 333.20 350.90 + 0.60 Albard Fand 532.90 501.60 + 1.60	Managed Fund 329.60 347.00 - 0.30 Property Fund 233.30 245.70 + 0.40 Fixed Interest Fit 239.70 252.40 - 0.90
Far East Ser 6 58.500 488.30 - 0.30 Europe Ser 6 585.30 721.30 - 0.40 Inmi Ser 6 580.80 611.30 + 0.60	Gift & Fixed Int 276.50 291.10 - 1.49 Index Linked 187.50 197.40 - 0.10	Japan 248-70 261.70 • 260 Japan Smitr Cos 254-70 268.00 • 2.70 European 213-60 224.70	Herts A1,1 5TF. 8T727 4881 Global Managed 660,00 694.70 - 1.10 Global Property 316,00 333.30	GBI Bond Acc 462.50 485.80 - 1.40 Gold Bond Acc 213.50 224.30 + 9.60 High Yield Bond 367.90 286.40r	Gold Share 104.60 110 + 2.80 High Income 323.80 340.80 + 1.30	Egytty Fund. 642.50 676.40 - 1.30 Property Fund. 251.50 265.10 - 0.30 International Fd. 595.20 626.60 - 0.26	Money Fund 211.50 222.70 + 0.10 Equity Fund 433.40 456.30 + 0.70
Fixed Int Ser 6 472.00 495.80 - 1.10	Nih American 370.50 390.00 - 6.60	Pacific Fund 121.90 338.70 • 0.30 Conv Life 147.60 195.30 • 1.10 Formerly Provident Manual	Global Fixed Int 540.60 \$69.00 - 4.20 Global Equity 720.60 758.50 + 2.40 Global Cash 225.50 237.40 + 0.20	Index-Link Gr 84 217.90 228.90 + 0.20 International 84 897.00 912.00 + 0.70 Japan Bond Acc 256.40 269.40 + 1.50	Income 485.50 511 • 4.20 Japan 436.70 459.60 • 5.40 UK Smir Cos 449.60 473.20 • 1.10	Fried interes Pd 403.80 425.20 - 0.50 Indexed Stock Pd 207.90 219.00 Cash Pand 240.80 253.60 + 0.30	WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Tellord, Shrooshire
Greed Dep Ser 6 314.00 3xxxx	International Art 360.70 379.70 + 0.30 Special Sits 662.10 697.00 + 7.40 European Plex 559.00 588.50 - 1.80	Managed Ord \$50.30 \$79.30 • 0.20 Managed Initial \$55.10 \$73.80 • 0.10	LAURENTIAN LIFE	Japan Sm Cos Ar. 250.80 260.50 + 5.40 Managed Bonds 1004.10 1054.40 + 6.80 Seen Bend Aca. 227.10 406.50 + 0.40	Maga Growth 535.30 563.40 + 1.10 BOWAL LIFE INSTIRANCE		M252 292929 M200 Bond 807.80 851.30 - 2.10
BARCIAYS LIFE 352 Romlard Road, Lendon E79JB 352 Romlard Road, Lendon E79JB 353 S45544 358 S45544 358 S45544 358 S45545	COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Column Martin House, Charles Mariene.	Equity Ord 852.00 856.80 + 1.60 Equity this 544.80 572.70 + 0.60 I-Linked GR Ord 204.90 202.90 - 0.20 I-Linked Gib Init 141.50 148.90 - 0.20	Barawood, Gloocyaer GLA TRZ 81452.371371	Rec Bond Acc 90470 95010 -1130	New Hall Place, Liverpool L693HS 8 5 2393800 Royal Shield Pd 1133.80 199.70 + 4.10	Skandis House, Portland Terrace, Southempton SO978X 07/03 1344	Equity Pand 72A.50 762.60
-do Inkial 629.00 662.00 - 1.60 GRI Edged ACC 408.60 410.20 - 1.00	Kent ME417 025134 055 151 051 051 051 051 051 051 051 051	Oseas Equity Oct 446.80 470.30 - 0.60	Managed 479.30 504.50 + 0.80 American 525.30 552.90 - 4.70	MGM ASSURANCE MGM House Riccae Road, Worthing BNII 2DV, 01908 204631	Royal Life Unit Linked Martesee Sums 447.20 470.70 + 1.60	From the last to the state of t	Gresham Pramilington American & Grun 712-20 750-50 - 7.20
-00- Initial 294.80 310.40 + 0.50 do Initial 294.80 310.40 + 0.50 do Initial 294.80 638.00 + 1.10	do Cash 213.10 224.32 + 0.10	Property Cric 280.00 294.70 + 0.30 Property Init 180.70 190.20 + 0.10 Pixed Init Crid 299.40 315.20 - 0.90	UK Equity Nd 526.00 553.60 - 2.00 Japan 228.70 240.70 - 1.40 Indus-Lini 192.80 202.90 - 0.20	UK Equity 259.10 272.80 + 0.90 UK Equity Acc 383.20 403.40 + 0.60 Special Sits 66.70 112.40 + 0.30 Special Sits Acc 157.90 166.30 • 0.60	Equity Pund 647.50 681.50 • 5.20 Property Fund 343 361 Louernational 566.30 596 • 0.10	International Acc 388.50 408.90 + 1.40 Property 232.70 244.90 + 0.90	Income 873.40 920.30 + 2.00 International Gtb 730.50 769.80 - 2.40 Capital Fund 745.30 785.40 + 2.50
Managra Acc 384 20 404.50 + 0.70 do-Initial 307.20 323.40 - 0.60	-do-Manager 200.03 313.72 + 1.68	Pixed ins Ink 191.20 201.40 - 0.70 Deposit Ord 217.50 229.30 - 0.20 Deposit India: 140.50 147.30	High Yield 966.30 1017 + 1.00 Monty 423.90 446.20 + 0.40 International 457.50 +82.00 + 0.20	North American 221,20 252,90 - 5.60	Pacific Bessin 305.50 321.50 + 2.20 United States 398.60 356.60 - 2.90 Gin Fund 992.90 413.50 - 1.00	STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Editohorgh EH1 ZKZ 8131 25 252	Recovery Pand 681.40 720.10 + 3.70 Japan & General 283.60 298.80 + 4.80 Formonly AEma
Property Acc 308.10 204.40 - 0.10 do initial 194.10 204.40 - 8.50	-in-Cash Life 327.07 344.29 + 0.36	GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE	Henderson Active 242.90 255.60 + 1.80 Perpetual Active 384.60 404.80 + 1.30 Growth Act. 746.60 785.80 + 1.00	Pacific Basin 390.80 411.40 + 1.90 Pacific Basin Acc 573.10 608.60 + 3.20 Fixed Interest 297.20 302.40 - 1.10	SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex	Cash 283.10 298.10 • 0.30 Equity 1206.00 1248.50 • 1.90	Life Funds Squirrei 19.07 20.07 • 0.02 Bear 21.78 22.99 • 0.02
America Acc 256.10 209.60 + 8.30 Australia Acc 428.00 450.60 - 1.20 Financial Acc 512.70 538.70 + 3.50	-00-Fixed Cap 408.99 430.53 - 211	Royal Exchange London EC3. 0172 283 7181 And Prop Bds 845-20 880-40	Olb Edged 453.00 476.80 - 1.90 Empocha 174.70 183.80 - 0.70	Property 179.60 189.10	RM) 3LB, 01708 766946 Rai (ny Fund 862.00 912.20 + 1.30 2.37	European 196.40 206.80 + 0.50 For East 193.90 204.20 + 1.20	Owl 24.49 25.78 • 0.11 Bull 20.68 21.98 • 0.01
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Letsure Acc 318.30 320.90 200	-do-Mingd Inv 110.10 110.54 + 048	-do-Acc 1199.00 1262.10 4 1.00 Pixed initialisti 453.40 477.20 ~ 3.50	LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefore Road, Hove, Suspex BNS ISE 01273 824000	Managed Acc 397.60 307.00 + 0.20 Managed Acc 397.60 418.60 + 0.80	Property Fund (46) 117.50 124.40 7.11 AG Bond Fund 169.40 179.30 + 2.20	Managed \$27.10 870.70 + 0.90 Nth American 184.30 194.10 - 4.20 Property 378.10 398.00 + 0.60	Pensions Squirrei 26.41 27.80 + 0.03 Bear 30.96 32.59 + 0.04
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0800 590547

Bank of Ireland 01734 510100 Nat West 0800 400999

Handout? Handout? Oh the 112% handout

Massive handouts' means our own

what amounts to seven and six -..

of the old money. That's after tax

little mass: Shareholders will each get

From Mr R. Ellis

Sir. (Revenue has eye on £17

billion handouts, March 23).

When, in 1988, the Bolton

Building Society merged with C&G and, in 1991, the South-

ampton Building Society was

taken over, I benefited by a

miserly 112 per cent in each

case and tax was deducted at

25 per cent. So what's new?

Yours sincerely.

REGINALD ÉLLIS.

4. Ringstead Court.

Ringstead Road.

Sutton, Surrey.

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When the system fails to offer an explanation for loss

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

From Mr W. Dorward

somewhere.

Yours faithfully

WILLIAM DORWARD.

Sir, This letter is prompted by the article (Weekend Money,

Waulkmill, Skirling.

Biggar, Lanarkshire.

From Mr W. Farrar

Sir. Your article on cheque clearance ("What a difference a day makes, Weekend Money, March 30) might be supplemented by reference to the experience of those who, like me, have monthly remittances sent directly from an overseas bank to a UK bank, in my case Barclays.

My pension is paid into the Standard Chartered Bank in Hong Kong. By standing order, i have a certain sum remitted by airmail, bank to bank, on the first of the month.

An advice is sent to me from the bank in Hong Kong at the same time and usually arrives about the sixth or seventh of the month, so it is reasonable to assume that the Standard Chartered Bank's cheque reaches Barclays Bank the

It generally appears on my statement at the end of the month as having been credited about the eighth of the month, but, on the odd occasion when I have needed the funds urgently. I have been advised that in fact it takes up to five working days to clear and is not available for that time or most of it.

Leaving aside the valid question as to why it should take five days to clear a bank cheque, I also wonder who has my money between the time it debited to my account in Hong Kong on the first of the month and the time it is available for my use about the C&G received it on February fifteenth. It must be 21 (almost six weeks later) via the Royal Mail dead-letter office in Belfast!

The Royal Mail's explanation (excuse?) was that the address was partly obscured. but admitted that the delay was too long, the turnaround at that time being ten days. I wonder if the item just got lost in the system (eg, stuck at the bottom of a mailbag). Whatever it was, I am the poorer by the loss of interest over six

March 30) on cheque clearance allied to snail-mail. On January II! I posted a £4,000 personal cheque from Pontefract to C&G by post at weeks, for which the Royal Fareham, Hampshire. It was Mail accepts no responsibility. in a C&G 1st class prepaid Yours faithfully, WALTER FARRAR. window envelope, with the address machine printed on 1 Barnsley Road, Ackworth, Pontefract. the enclosed paying in slip.

Case for Pensioners Guaranteed Bonds

From Mr O. Hare Sir. I refer to Mr Shock's letter of March 30 concerning National Savings Pensioners Guaranteed Income Bonds. Even at 7 per cent (earlier this year, the rate on Series 2 was 7.5 per cent) the choice between them and gilts seems to me debatable, since there is no commission to pay on buying or selling (as there is with gilts purchased through the National Savings Stock Register), the interest is paid monthly, as opposed to

half-yearly, and the penalty of 60 days loss of interest on encashment before the expiry date may well be considerably these columns and indepenless than would be forefeited dent professional advice following an enforced sale of should be sought.

the gilts before redemption Yours faithfully, OWEN HARE,

32 Trafalgar Road,

Gloucestershire. Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. The Times regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in

Alternative route to US rental car insurance

From Mr M. Millwood Sir, The plight of Mr France and Ms Pilkington concerning their motor accident in the US and the subsequent threat of litigation for which Mr France is not insured (The right route for US car insurance". March 23) prompts me to reveal to your readers a cheap

way to avoid such problems. While collision damage vaiver for small and mediumsized rental cars in the US is currently \$13.99 a day or £61 a week, if purchased with the tour company in this country it can be secured for £5.50 a

day through the Swire Fraser Insurance Company. The essential "top up" insurance, not purchased by Mr France and giving liability cover for up to \$1 million, can be purchased for £55 for a 15-day holiday from the same insurance By using them for a 15-day

rental of a medium-sized car the cost is E132, against £210 quoted by tour companies. Yours sincerely, MIKE MILLWOOD. 15 Bay View Road, Benliech, Ynys Mon.

Unit-linked loser asks why

From Mr N. Uberoi Sir, with reference to the comment (March 30) on Clerical Medical's change of heart. I have had a 10-year savings plan since 1988, with only two years to maturity but am. excluded from the takeover bonus as it is unit-linked.

I am "a long-term customer. who has contributed to Clerical Medical's wealth ... as well as the with-profits holders. Why am I excluded? Yours sincerely. NEEL UBEROI, "Woodlands", Firs Road,

Kenley, Surrey.

PRIVATISATION PERFORMANCES

SHARE	ISSUE DATE CH	INGE ON ISSUE PRICE AS OF 31.1.96 (%)
Amersham	February 1982	
Assoc. British Ports	February 1983	735.71
B. 447 - 5 - 5 - 1	February 1983 April 1984 July 1981	486.62 735.71 246.87 494.67 137.87
British Aerospace	July 1981	494.67
David di La Austria	September 1985	137.87
British Airports Authority	July 1987 February 1987	296.73
British Airways British Gas	December 1987	. 323.60
British Petroleum	June 1977	77.04 650.71
DIRECTIF COOLCAIN	October 1979	336.78
1 22	September 1983	264.48
1 .	October 1987	60.15
British Steel	December 1988	37.40
British Telecom	December 1984	174.23
1	December 1991	6.42
1	July 1993	-13.05
Cable and Wireless	November 1981	1,487,50
1	November 1983	546.55
	March 1985	202.90
Enterprise Oil	June 1984	98.92
Roils-Royce	May 1987	20.00
National Power	March 1991	149.14
PowerGen	March 1991	102.71
Fowerden	February 1905	130.71
Scottish Power	June 1991	58.33
Scottish Hydro	June 1991	47.92
Northern ireland Elec.	June 1993	88.18
]	September 1985 July 1987 February 1987 February 1987 December 1936 June 1977 Gotober 1979 September 1983 October 1987 December 1988 December 1984 December 1984 December 1991 July 1993 November 1983 March 1985 June 1984 May 1987 March 1991 February 1995 March 1991 February 1995 June 1991 June 1991 June 1993 November 1993 November 1990 November 1990 November 1990	
Regional Elec. Companies		
' Eastern Electricity Plc	November 1990	306.25
East Midlands Electricity Plo	November 1990	155.31 158.57 312.50
London Electricity Plc	November 1990	158.57
² Manweb Plc	November 1990	312.50
Midlands Electricity Plc	November 1990	225.00
Northern Electricity Pic NORWEB Pic	November 1990.	146.25
4 SEEBOARD Pic	November 1990	540 17
Southern Flectric Pic	November 1000	340.17
Southern Electric Plc 5 South Wales Electricity Plc	November 1990	253.75
6 South Western Electricity F	CNovember 1990	302.08
Yorkshire Electricity Grp Plc	November 1990	199.58
1	November 1990 November 1990	
Water Companies		
Anglian Water Plc	November 1989	
7 Northumbrian Water Grp P		391.25
North West Water Group P Severn Trent Pic Southern Water Pic South West Water Pic Thames Water Pic Welen Water Pic Welen Water Pic	November 1989	157 50
Southern Water Ptc	November 1989	157.50 186.67
South West Water Pic	November 1989	108.33
Thames Water Plc	November 1989	126.25
I MEDSII MELEI FIL	November 1989	207.50
9 Wessex Water Plc	November 1989	39.58
Yorkshire Water Plc	November 1989	155.00
Notional Octo	Daniel - 4555	

Taken over by Hanson @ 975p Taken over by Scottish Power @ 990p Merged with North West Water

Taken over by Central & Western of USA @ 535.40 erging with Welsh Water

Merging with vielsn water
Taken over by Southern Electric of USA @ 965p
Taken over by Lyonnaise @ 1179p
Merged with Norweb to for United Utilities
Merging with South Wales Electricity
Source: Privatisation, The Facts published by Price Waterhouse
More detailed privatisation statistics next week

England & Wales 01621 851133 Scotland 0141 353 0311

Beale Dobie & Company Limited, Valuations Dept. TT40KD Freepost (CL2921).
Fullbridge Mill, Maldon, Essex CM9 5BR. Fax 01621 850724. Beale Dobie Scotland Limited, Valuations Dept. TT40KD, 7 Woodlands Terrace, Glasgow G3 6DD. Fax 0141 353 2887

Beale Dobie

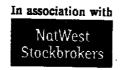
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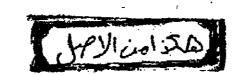
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Anachronistic opening should soothe fevered brows amid clamour for change

Limbering up for a season of uncertainty

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

IT IS an apologetic start for a potentially apocalyptic cricket season. Public clamour for change in the game is at fever pitch and the demand is for a tearing down of all things traditional. Yet, on a chilly second Saturday of April, anachronism is defiantly sustained as the first-class programme opens — weather permitting — with a game between Oxford University and Leicestershire.

There were years when this was a comforting ritual, as gently springlike as the smell of new-mown grass, but that was in less turbulent times. Now, in the violent backwash of a World Cup that concentrated minds on the inadequacies of English cricket as seldom before, there is something frustratingly footling about the season starting with an inconsequential and large-ly unnoticed shiver in The

The witnesses to this ancient and obsolete tradition will be the usual mixture of enthusiasts emerging from hiberna-tion, noting their attendance like trainspotters marking down another engine and ruminating on many a previ-ous opening day. The occasion, and the setting, are quintessentially English, which is the abiding dilemma for the proponents of modernism and revolution.

Like it or not, there is still a unique attraction about the measured tread of the domestic season. There is even something quaint, almost worth preservation, about the triviality in Oxford today, but, if quality control were imposed, little would survive

It is the heightened awareness of this that will dominate the coming months, for all cricket this season is destined to be played in a studied limbo, rather like a decaying house with a disputed demolition order. One of the standing jokes about cricket in England is that nothing ever changes, yet there is evident scope for

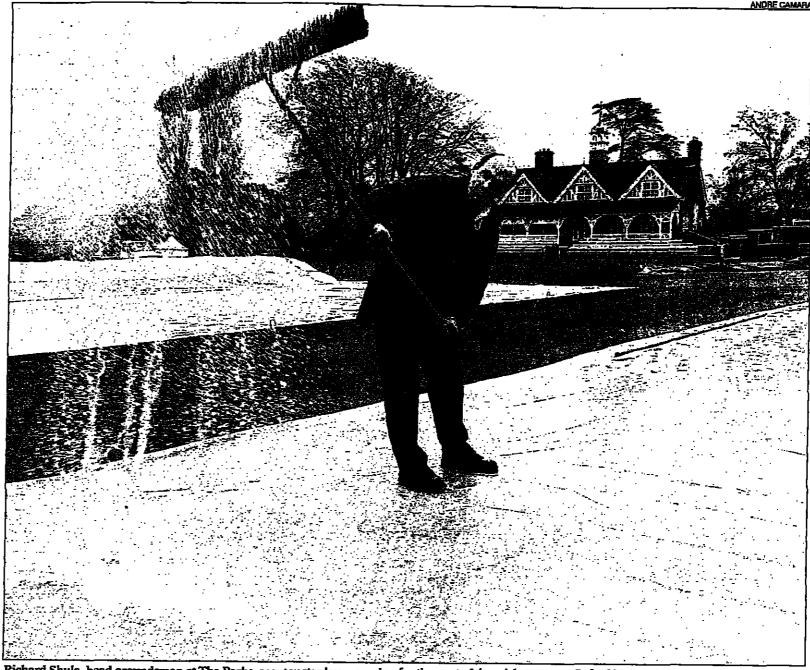
1996 to alter that perception. Behind the familiar scenes, activity will be focused on two significant fronts - the administration of the game at all levels in England and the management and preparation of the national team. By the autumn, substantial streamlining should have taken place in both areas. If it has not, those responsible will have the state of English cricket on their consciences.

Soon, we are assured, the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), with its un-wieldy chains of command and its tendency to a selfsustaining parochialism, will give way to a new and better body, the English Cricket Board. The difference remains unfathomable to most, but, if it achieves nothing else, it must bestow decision-taking powers on its executives to bypass the bureaucratic bottleneck that so impedes ad-

vancement in the game.

Simultaneously, and with far greater public appreciation, the working party chaired by David Acfield is trying to identify how the declining fortunes of the England team can be arrested and reversed. Theirs is a small, select gathering with a formidable assignment; at the very least, they deserve the guarantee that their recommendations will be respected, by the counties who must consider them, rather more than the binned and pigeon-holed offerings of previous such committees.

In fairness, there are distinct signs of stirring in the shires. For too long, too many counties have concerned themselves with their local priorities even at the evident expense of the national inter-



Richard Shula, head groundsman at The Parks, spent yesterday preparing for the start of the cricket season. Oxford University meet Leicestershire today

est. Perhaps this is changing, judging by the encouraging acceptance of three points for a draw in the county championship this year, and of playing games from Wednesday to Saturday, without the ludi-crous interruption of a 40overs game, as from next year.

These may seem minor changes, but they represent a notable shift of thinking, an acknowledgement that all is not well; and it is by such finetuning that benefits will accrue, rather than by the apoplectic blustering that has unhelpfully raged since England returned home premarurely from the World Cup.

In a few weeks, the game

has suffered the shambles of

an aborted election for the

appearance money and time bonuses, it could be a great

deal more. If Liz McColgan

wins in a very fast time, she could be on for \$200,000. In 1981, the prize for the first

woman home was a watch . .

and the prize for the third

place, feminists everywhere,

I have not mentioned Pelé's vasectomy for ages. You will be delighted to learn that the

operation to reverse it seems to

have been a complete success. At the age of 55, he is to become a father again.

In this country, we have still barely scratched the surface of

the true purpose of attending

sporting events. In the United

States, they are much clearer; sport is about earing. Take

San Francisco Giants. They

may not be terribly good at

baseball - they are expected

to finish bottom of the Nat-

ional League West - but they

have responded to a poor

playing record by going for

the most elaborate menu in

sport. Foot-long hotdogs? Pah.

At what is now 3-Com Park, formerly Candlestick Park,

you can eat calamari, grilled ahi, lime-scented pork and tomato chilli, fajita salad, and

chicken breast and corn chilli

in cumin-infused broth. I hope

losing is good for the diges-

Now for a grim one. Recently,

Daniel Tosquelles, a support-

er of the Uruguayan team,

Nacional, was shot dead at a

football match. He was trying

to protect an 11-year-old boy,

whose flag was being stolen by

Cerro fans. Now, someone has

been accused of his murder: a

15-year-old boy.

Flag tatality

Comfort food

Scoring again

chairmanship of the selection committee and, now, potential chaos from a gratuitously over-subscribed application list of selectors. This has been accompanied by such a chorus of unhelpful and often uninformed rhetoric from the chairmen and chief executives of various counties that fresh directives on those who should make public comments, and

It has been a troubled start to spring, the decibels too high, the logic too low. Maybe, after all, it needs a day like today, in that timelessness, that country-in-the-city feel of The Parks, to soothe some fevered brows.

King leads

when, can shortly be expected

from the disciplinary arm of

Wintry outlook at The Parks

THE bad weather that returned yesterday threw up the prospect of an opening day at The Parks spent watching the rain streaking down the pavilion windows, with intervals for the occasional watery pitch inspection and threesweater forays to loosen up on the outfield.

Oxbridge cricket may be discredited as a first-class force, but the counties show no rush to give up on their early-season visits. Opportunities beckon for young players, among them Gregor Macmillan and Darren Maddy, who will open the

innings for Leicestershire. Macmillan, who led Oxford to victory in the University match last year, scoring an unbeaten hundred, starts his first full county season despite the handicap of a hairline fracture in his hand.

Maddy gets his chance to establish himself after Nigel Briers, who stepped down as Leicestershire captain at the end of last season, was ruled out for the first two months of the campaign after knee surgery. Oxford are captained this year by Chinmay Gupte. Mark Benson, the Kent captain, will miss the start of the season because of a knee injury sustained in training. Kent begin with a Benson and Hedges Cup tie against British Universities on April 26. India, the first of the sum-

mer's touring teams, continued their indifferent one-day form yesterday with a 38-run defeat by Pakistan in the opening match of the Sharjah one-day tournament. Aamir Sohail, leading Pakistan in the absence of the injured Wasim Akram. laid the foundation for his side's victory with a century off 127 balls, his fifth hundred in limited-overs

Britain fail to learn lessons of defeats on world stage

From Norman de Mesquita IN EINDHOVEN

GREAT Britain's ice hockey players had a rest from world championship competition here yesterday, although they did practise. The need to eliminate unnecessary penalties when they face Poland and Holland today and tomorrow should have been their

After another rest day on Monday, Britain face Japan on Tuesday and, to survive in pool B, must win at least two of these three games. It was interesting that, after their 6-1 loss to Latvia, the Japan coaching staff said that they were satisfied with their team's performance and described it as a learning experience.

So far. Britain appear to have learnt nothing and the lack of discipline in the first two games has cost them dear. In those games, opponents have been given 17 power plays and seven of the 13 goals conceded have come with a Britain player in the penalty

The average age of the squad is another factor in the disappointing performances chose to play Paul Dixon, 22, rather than Terry Kurtenbach, 33, in the final period of the game against Switzerland.

it is time that some attention was paid to the future and room must be found in the squad for talented young British-born and trained players rather than ageing Canadians, many of whom are only in Britain because they were not good enough to forge a significant career in Canada.

The future of the domestic game continues to be clouded in uncertainty, but it could become clearer after a meeting in Blackpool this weekend, that will be attended by those clubs not in the proposed Super League.

The Super League is back to seven teams with the addition of Ayr, but exactly when their 3.000-seat Centrum will be ready seems to be yet another unknown factor. After ten years of stability, British ice hockey seems not to know where exactly it is going and some positive news is overque.

Coaches in collision with forces of law and order

go, that one policeman equals two referees, so I had better give these stories equal billing. The policeman was allegedly assaulted by the coach of Real Betis football team in Spain; the referees by the coach of Lethbridge Hurricanes ice hockey team in Canada (so they do notice such things out

First to Spain, where Lorenzo Serra Ferrer, the Real Betis team coach, was given a parking ticket by a policeman who supported their city rivals, Sevilla. Ferrer reacted angrily, and was locked up for four hours, accused of kicking the copper: the coach denies it. The whole incident is because of the pain of our

21-point advantage over Sevi-lla," Manuel Ruiz de Lopera. the Real Betis owner, said. He said that the policeman was responsible for the fact that Real Betis dropped a couple of points by drawing 2-2 with Racing Santander last weekend. Incidentally, Diego himself was once briefly a Sevilla player, he was given a speed-

ing ticket by a policeman who supported Real Betis.

Meanwhile, up in moose country, Bryan Maxwell, coach of the Hurricanes, was a trifle upset after two late penalties allowed Regina Pats to sneak a 6-5 victory. Maxwell took on both Brent Reiber, the referee, and Jeff Klick, a linesman. He has been suspended for a year and fined Can\$1,000 (£500). He has been banned from attending games until February 1997. He is also due to appear in court next month, charged with uttering threafs. Herman Elfring, the Hurricanes president, said that he was disappointed ar the length of the suspension.

Lend a hand

No sign of John Major's cricket bat in the Long Room at Lord's, but the baseball glove of George Bush, the former United States President, is to go on show in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Bush played first base for Yale in 1947 and 1948. He was captain, and the team won the National College Athletic Association Championship in both years. Bush played 51 games



SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

and had a batting average of 251 with 23 RBI. The winning woman will get \$55,000 [about £37,500]; with

Doubtful digit Now for news of the most

important single finger in the history of sport. Its owner is, of course, Shane Warne ... and the nature of the golden digit's continuous state of injury has become one of life's great mysteries. Now, Warne is planning a trip to the United States for laser treatment. "Definitely not a des-peration move." Warne said; but he confesses to worry: "I want to get back to bowling my main delivery, the big leg

I hope it's just your poorly finger your showing me Mr Wappe

break. It is the ball I have built my game around, but it is also the ball that seems to have done some damage to the finger. The sooner it is fixed, the better. A lot of people seem to be talking about my spinning linger and just what is wrong. I have to say I have had just about enough of it all."

Price of progress

This column will not be taking part in the Flora London Marathon next weekend. The event, one of sport's instant traditions, seems always to have been with us, always the same, but this is not quite true.

domestic challenge at Belton By JENNY MACARTHUR

MARY KING, a winner of a team gold medal and an individual bronze at the European three-day-event championships in Italy last year, will give King William and Star Appeal, her Olympic Games contenders, a final outing before Badminton at the Belton Pedigree Chum Horse Trials in Lincolnshire this

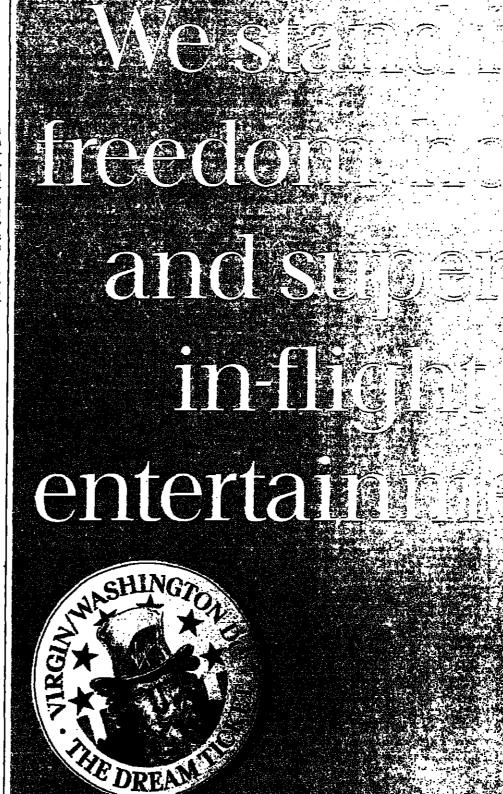
Belton's big, technical course provides ideal preparation for Badminton and the trials have attracted most of the sport's leading names. Lucy Thompson, of Ireland, the European champion, and Mark Todd, of New Zealand. the dual Olympic champion.

lead the overseas challenge. British riders include William Fox-Pitt and Ian Stark, winners of their sections at Brigstock last week, and Kristina Gifford and Charlotte Bathe, members of the gold medal-winning team in Italy last year.

King, whose first child, Emily, was born at the end of January, has barely been out of action. She was riding two weeks after the birth and, last month, won at Dynes Hall, on King William, and was third. on Star Appeal, her 1995 Punchestown winner.

This weekend, if the going is as good as expected, King will let both horses "bowl on" With Karen Dixon (Too Smart and Get Smart) and Gifford (Midnight Blue and General Jock). King has a chance of being selected for Atlanta for both the individual and team Todd looks to have one of

the best chances this weekend with Bertie Blunt, one of his two Badminton entries and a winner at Belton last year. Though successful in one-day horse trials, the partnership has yet to complete a four-star event. At Burghley two years ago, Todd was eliminated after missing out a flag on the roads and tracks phase. At Badminton last year, where Todd rode most of the crosscountry with only one stirrup. Bertie Blunt failed the final horse inspection.



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Gloucester die-hards add spice to Ladies Day

By David Hands, Rugby correspondent

of Gloucester's ground at Kingsholm, played a starring role in the victory over Bath on Wednesday night that has had such an impact at the top and the bottom of the first division of the Courage Club Champ-ionship. It is the standing area from which emanate not only the most ribald of advice to visiting teams but even a fanzine whose qualities are as direct as traditional Gloucester forward play.

After they had inflicted only the second League defeat of this season on Bath, the Gloucester players paid tribute to the rolling waves of support from the Shed. Its occupants reflect, more than anyone, the traditional passion for rugby at Kingsholm: if its energy could be bottled. Gloucester would put it up for sale and, as their ground is developed over the next decade, they will contrive to keep the Shed in place.

The plan is for an 18,000 capacity, all-seat stadium, but club officials will do all they can, within the limits of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, to maintain the raw, intimidating atmosphere that oozes from that side of Kingsholm. Today, the Shedheads, as their fanzine is known, visit decorous Harlequins, on the day when the London club inaugurates Ladies Day with a display of modelling by several leading players.

There could be no greater contrast between the city slickers and the earthy West Counrrymen, were it not for the fact that Harlequins have proved no soft touch this season and stand third in the table while Gloucester require more than victory over Bath to move clear of the relegation zone. Yet, now, they see some light at the end of this season's runnel and restore Mark

THE Shed, that famed quarter Mapletoft. Phil Greening, Andy Deacon and Rob Fidler in the hope of leaving Bris-tol and Saracens in their

Against them are ranged the Harlequins who succumbed to an inspired Bath a week ago with one exception. Steve Lloyd, once of Moseley, makes his League debut at lock while Chris Sheasby will not play again this season after breaking a bone in his hand.

Bath take themselves to Saracens, boosted by the availability of Jonathan Callard at full back. Few clubs relish a visit to Southgate, but only once, six years ago, have Bath failed in successive League games. They will be without Ben Clarke, who pulled ankle tendons against Gloucester. Steve Ojomoh returns to the back row, Mike Catt reverts to stand-off half and Adedayo Adebayo moves to centre in the continued absence of Jeremy Guscott.

Leicester, two points behind Bath but now with a game in hand, have Smart Potter restored at centre and Dean Richards back at the helm for the visit to Bristol where. historically, they have frequently contrived to lose. However desperate Bristol are for points, they are, however, short of their best players: Mark Regan is injured. Arwel Thomas is in Japan with the Wales Sevens squad and Garath Archer has indicated his intention of moving back to Newcastle.

Far removed from such lofty issues. Newcastle's junior teams hope to form a new club of their own. There is no room for junior rugby at Kingston Park after this season and the players affected have discussed with Northumbria University the possibility of a new organisation at the nearby Bullocksteads ground.



Phil Davies is hoping for success in the Swalec Cup after more than a decade of sterling service at Llanelli

Welsh take turn on centre stage

By DAVID HANDS

IF THE spotlight is on Welsh rugby today, it is not merely because of the semi-finals of the Swalec Cup. All week. England's leading clubs have stressed the moral support that they have received not only from their counterparts in Wales but also from the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU). The WRU, it is said, has approved the competitive structure proposed by the English clubs that runs counter to that put forward by the Rugby Football Union (RFU).

"The stance the RFU has taken is unfortunate and we will have to consider what has happened when we meet the WRU on April 18," Alan Meredith, the spokesman for the Welsh first division clubs. said. "Wales. Scotland. Ireland and France are looking for a way forward that suits all of us, but the RFU is standing on its own."

The leading English clubs see the Welsh authorities in constructive talks with their clubs and yearn for the same with the RFU'so that plans can be put in motion for next season. All of which is ironic. given the raids that English clubs are making on Welsh talent: of today's semi-finals teams, for example, Phil Davies will join Leeds this summer. Lee Jarvis and Leigh Davies are being pursued by English clubs and the Liewellyn brothers are moving to London.

Whether Jarvis, the precocious Pontypridd stand-off half, plays against Llanelli at Bridgend in the earlier of today's two games remains to be decided. Neil Jenkins, the international stand-off, has suffered from flu all week, but his club will leave the position open as long as possible — bearing in mind the five penalties that Jenkins kicked against Llanelli a year ago that carried them to a 20-14 win and a place in the final.

Pontypridd the "nearly" club of Wales, would give much to lose that tag: second in the Heineken League, second in last year's Cup final, a trophy would put the seai on the lengthy career of Nigel Bezani. their 39-year old captain and prop forward, who retires at the end of this season. However, Llanelli would like to do as much for Phil Davies, the former Wales lock, who has been an outstanding servant for more than a decade.

Neath, who began this season expecting it to be one of transition, now stand on the verge of a League and Cup double. Their recent League

feat of Newport, a scoreline enlarged by four interception tries, but a tight Cup match may be different from League games, whose results are distorted by the bonus points

system operating this season. Jonathan Humphreys, the Wales captain, is among crities of the bonus system that rewards teams for scoring tries even when they are on the wrong end of a hiding. "Will Neath players have waht it takes to win a tight match?" Humphreys said. "It's not that I doubt their ability, but winning games by 90, 70 or 50 points every week does nothing for you or the opposition.

Newport who have been joined by the former England Under-21 coach. Stan Liptrot, as their backs coach, will look to the Gareth Rees. to bring

dies hard at Border sevens

By MARK SOUSTER

THESE fast-changing times for rugby union, nothing, it appears, is sacred, not even the Melrose Sevens, of which the tournament today is the 106th. Whereas the Border sevens circuit in April once brought a neat end to the season, the advent of professionalism and the necessity to shoe-horn ever more matches into the domestic and international calendar has placed a question mark, not against their continued existence, but at least their position and status in the season.

This year, the latter stages of inaugural national knockout cup competition, sponsored by Tennents, have had to be accommodated on successive Sundays to avoid clashing with cherished sevens tournaments, which, for most clubs. represent the difference between profit and loss.

It will not happen next year and, with the five nations championship being pushed back to April from 1997-98. clubs like Gala. Melrose, Hawick, Jed-Forest and Langholm know that, however reluctantly, the pressure on them to reschedule their tournaments either to a Sunday, or, en bloc, to either May or August. a scenario backed by Rob Wainwright, the Scot-

land captain, is mounting. Nobody is suggesting that the seven-a-side game, steeped in tradition as it is, particularly in the Borders, where the first tournament was held at Melrose in 1883, is an anachronism that should be jettisoned. Smart Henderson, the Melrose secretary, said: "We cannot do anything else but consider moving if that is the reality, but when to I just don't know. One thing is certain though - the Melrose Sevens will continue. The players and spectators demand it."

He has a point. A crowd of only 1,500 watched Melrose beat Boroughmuir in one of the finest club matches for years three weeks ago. Today. ten times that number will descend on the Greenyards to watch 20 teams, including the holders, Manly, from Australia, and the other overseas competitors. Stellenbosch University, from South Africa. compete with the cream of rish talent as well as sides from Oxford University and Loughborough.

The six-hour jamboree, with its benefits for the local economy, should net Melrose a profit of about £40,000, vital to a club in a town of only 2,000 people.

Both first XVs from Dalkeith and Penicuik RFCs have been suspended by the SRU for four weeks until May 7 after their cup match on April 9 was abandoned by Roy McCombe, the referee, after fighting on the pitch.

Tradition | Display of power needed by Loughran

NURTH

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int spars

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By Srikumar Sen BOXING CORRESPONDENT

EAMONN LOUGHRAN, of Northern Ireland, has another chance to establish himself as one of the world's leading welterweights tonight. Loughran has made five de-fences of his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) title, but, so far, has failed to excite.

He defends his title against José Luis Lopez, of Mexico, at the Everton Park Sports Centre and, as Lopez is a puncher, like Loughran, it should make for good tele-vision. It would go a long way to earning Loughran recogni-tion if he could dispose of Lopez spectacularly.

Lopez is a mandatory challenger and, in view of the tough opposition that can normally be expected from Mexicans, one cannot be certain of victory for Loughran. So far, the champion has not shown anything in his five defences to suggest that he is well enough equipped to deal with all-comers.

Little is known about Lopez's boxing ability other than



Loughran: tough task

that he has a respectable record of 34 wins out of 38 contests, of which he has won 26 on stoppages.

If the bout turns out to be a slugging match. Loughran should prove durable enough to out-stay the challenger, but, if Lopez turns out to be a boxer as well as a puncher, Loughran could expect to find

himself in serious difficulties. On the undercard is an explosive WBO light-flyweight contest between Jake Mailala, 34, of South Africa, the champion, and Paul Weir, 28, of meeting. Matlala won the last encounter, in Glasgow in November, in five rounds, the bout being stopped because of a cut sustained by Weir.

The referee's intervention in that contest did Weir a favour. It saved him from being knocked out in the next few seconds, and it also ensured a return match because of the protest lodged by Tommy

Gilmour. Weir's manager. This time. Matlala's pressure should again prove too much for Weir.

Review of league structure follows Orkney decision

month ago. Orkney Rugby Club would not have considered itself the driving force or catalyst for radical change. However, its epic and ultimately successful confrontation with the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) over the right to play national league rugby, and not be debarred by reason of geography, has triggered a wholesale review of the divisional structure north of the border.

Yesterday, the SRU an-

FOOTBALL

FA Carting Premiership

nounced a consultation process with all clubs to promote and encourage rugby" across the country. It said the leagues should be "fully inclusive rather than exclusive and will not discriminate by reason of geography".

in a letter to clubs, the SRU reaffirmed its intent to support rugby at whatever level to the limit of their — the clubs' — talent or ambition. To help clubs to fulfil league or cup commitments at places like

Second division

Mark Souster reports on a change of

heart for rugby north of the border

Orkney, who next week start such a move, although the their play-off campaign for a Orkney issue does raise that place in division seven, the SRU could consider assistance through a travel fund financed by European Cup income. As a corollary, the lower divisions might be regionalised to offset costs. The SRU stressed that it

possibility. Andy Little, the champion-ship convenor, said: "Our original decision not to allow Orkney to take part in the play-offs for possible promotion, which we gladly overturned when we again

canvassed the views of clubs in the sixth and seventh divisions, not only raised issues of principle but also practicality. in particular whether the current leagues structure is sufficiently sensitive to the wishes and financial resources of clubs in the lower divisions."

He continued: "The SRU wishes to use this as a catalyst in helping clubs at all levels to reach concensus about the kind of league structures they wish, in the context of retain-

GHEAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Mangolsfield, Bidport v Brisington, Credition v Celine, Taunion v Backwell, Torrington v Paulton R: Odd Down v Bristol Manot Parm, Barnstapte v Tiverion, Westbury v Elmore

ing seven divisions, but which, as a central tenent, should address the fact that principle and practicality are two sides of the same coin. The championship committee is the administrator of the championship but it is the clubs' league, and we listen to the clubs' views."

It is hoped that the first results from the consultation exercise would be available in time for the SRU's annual general meeting on June 28.

(1) Chelsea v Leeds
(2) Covenity v OPR
(3) Man City v Shell Wed
(4) Middlesbrough v Wimbledon
(5) Nortringham Forest v Blackbum
(6) * Southampton v Man Utd
(7) West Ham v Bolton
P W D L F A

(8) Barnslev v Reading (9) Birmogham v Luion 10) Crystal Palace v Southend 11) Huddersfield v Millwall Oldham v Wolverhampton * Shetheld Utd v Sunderland 13) Snembig () o v Sunc 14) Stoke v Portsmouth 15) Tranmere v Leicester 16) Watlord v Port Vale

lag: "Hyde v Narthwich Macclesheld v Chorlev Chorley
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division:
Bamber Bridge v Spermymoor Bishop
Auckland v Emley Burton v Blyth SpartanzFriddley v Colwyn Bay, Garrisborough v
Boston, Guiselev v Barrow Leek v
knowstey, Multock v Accungton Stantov.
Winsford v Droytsden, First division:
Altreton v Workington, Ashten Uld v Lingin
Atherton LR v Wernington, Bradford Pk Ave v
Netherheid: Congleton v Harrogate Tn.
Fleshwood v Lincoln Utd. Great Harwood v
Curzon Achton, Gretna v Farsley Cehic,
Lancaster v Eastwood Tn. Rodclitte v
Whitley Vay 41 5 13 23 29 72 28 Torquay Fordinadog: Caersws v Pint Tn; Connah's Quay v Newtown Ebbw Vale v Cornwy, Hohywol v Camaes Bay Uaneti v Rhyt, Ton BASS IRISH CUP: Semi-linet: Glenavon v Portadown (et The Oval, Betlect) 80RD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Sligo v Shamrock (7 30) AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Portane th v Wost Ham (2.0)

is not necessarily advocating COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Second division
(18) Brentford v Notts County
(--) Bristol Rovers v Blackpool
(19) Burnley v Peterborough
(--) Carlisle v Wreuham
(20) Chesterfield v Bristol City
(21) Hult v Crawe
(22) Swansea v Brighton
(23) Swindon v Boumemouth
(24) Walsali v Bradford
(24) Walsali v Bradford
(25) Swandon v Boumemouth (—) Stevenage v Stalybridge (—) Telford v Halifax Bell's Scottish League beil s Scottish League Premier division (40) Aberdeen v Molhenwell (41) kulmamock v Fallerk ... (42) Raith v Hearls (43) Rangers v Partick

Carirsie . . 1780 divestor (25) Barnet v Hartiepool (27) Bury v Torquay (28) Cambridge Utd v Doncaster (29) Chester v Rochdale i29] Chesier v Rochdale
(30) Colchesier v Futham
(31) Gütingham v Ester
(32) Hereford v Leyton Chem
(33) Lincoln v Mansfield
(34) Plymouth v Scarborovgh
(35) Scorthoppe v Cardini
(37) Wigan v Darington

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Vauxhall Conference vauxan contentions
(38) Dover v Altrincham
(---) Galeshead v Wolung
(39) Hednesford v Dag and fied
(---) Lettering v Morecambe
(---) Stough v Welling
(---) Soughport v Bain

39 14 10 15 47 40 52 41 12 13 16 52 57 49 41 12 13 18 46 56 49 41 12 12 17 54 57 48 40 11 13 16 53 63 46 39 11 11 17 48 61 44 Third division 41 10 13 18 52 64 43 42 8 14 30 38 73 38 41 9 10 22 41 80 37 41 5 16 20 32 62 31

First division (44) Clydebank v Airdine (45) Dumbarton v St Mirren (46) Dumber v Duntermline (47) Hamilton v Greenock Morton (48) St Johnstone v Dundee Utd Second division Second displays the Montrose (49) Berwick v Montrose (50) Clyde v East Fife (51) Forler v Stannser (52) Queen of South v String (53) Sterntousemur v Ayr (58) Ross County v Alloa

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Hassings Baldock v Gouzester: Chelmstord v Merthyr Chelterham v Sudbury Tn. Crewley v Salsbury. Halesowen v Cambridge C. Wesson v Gravesend and Northfiel. Rushdan and Damonds v Newport AFC Wordester v VS Rugby Midland Glwstor: Bridgnorth v Corby, Buckingham Town v Paget R. Dudley Town v Evesham. Handsley Tn v Southodge Kings Lynn v Nureadon. Lacester Uid v Rothwell, RC Warasck, v Grantham, Reddich v Bedworth, Softwill v Bistor, Sutton Coldfield v Bury In; Tamworth v Moor Green

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Cinderlord v Astvort; Clevedon v Brantiner: Einth and Betvedore v Bashley, Faretham v rae, Fisher 30 v Havant, Fleet In v Satingtourne, Poole v Mangate. Tontondge Angels v Forest Green, Trowbridge v Weymouth, Waterlooville v Newport (IOW), Warey v Weston-super-Mare bridge v Weymouth, Waterlooville v Newport (low), Witney v Weston-super-Mare
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's
Storflord v Carshalton, Chertsey v Hitchin,
Dulwich v Yeovil, Erfield v Progstonian
Hayes v Borsham Wood, Hendon v Aylesbury, Purifieet v Harrow, St Albars v Grays,
Sutton Utid v Bromley, Walton and Hersham
v Yeading, Worthing v Molesey First
division: Abingdon In v Wokingham
Aldershot In v Maderinead Utid: Barton
Rovers v Orford Cny, Billericav v Urbindge,
Bognor Regis v Barking Chestam v Marlow, Leyton Pennan v Wembley, Russip
Manor v Tooting and Mitcham; Stanes v
Heybridge Switis, Thame v Berkhamsted,
Whyteleale v Basingstoke Second division: Barristead v Salfron Walden Carvey
Island v Chestinni, Edgware v Croydon,
Egham v Dorking, H Hempstead v Wivenhoe, Hungerlord v Coller R, Lisatherhead v
Bedford T, Metiopolitan Police v Bracinell,
Itbury v Chalfont S, Peter, Ware v
Hampton Third division: Camberley v East
Thumok, Clagton v Weadstone, Harlow v
Aueley Hometurch v Tring, Kingstury v
Harefield, Linghlon v Epsom and Ewel
Leves v Cone, Northwood v Wingste and
Finchiev, Southal v Heritord, Windsor and
Elon v Horsham!

Eion v Horsham
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Fulham v Millwall Gillingham v Leyton Orient. Norwich v Southend Porismouth v Chelsea. Queens Park Rangers v Crarbon Ath. Totreshem Hotspus v Cambridge Utd. Wetford v Arsenal.
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers v Sawbridge-worth. Concord v E Ham, Hulbridge v Bowers, Maldon v Basklon u Romlord v Stansed Southend Manor v Ford Utd. LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amerisham v Brook House, Hillingdivision: Amerikam brook House Hilling-don Boro v Willesden (Hawkeye), Si Margaretsbury v Tutnell Park; Tottenham Omada v Hanwell; Wallfarm Abbey v Croydon Wookwchv Beaconsheld SYCOB

Inverior, Westrury v Ermore division: LEWSON LEAGUE Premier division: Cladion v Soham, Comard v Felbasiowe Diss v Woodbride, Halstead v Falkanham, Sudbury Res v Hadlegh U, Sudbury v Great Yarmouth, Tiptine v Newmarket, Watton v Match, Wisbech v Hamwich and Parkeston, Wrowham v Slowmarket. JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-vision. Lymingron v Totton, Bemerton Heath v Boumemouth. Christchurch v Assosituctures, Cowes Sports v Ports-mouth Eastleigh v Gospon, Petersfield v Brockenhurs! Whilchurch v Swanisge and Herston, Wentborne v Andover UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First onwich outsite COUNTY LEAGUE First division: Anindel v Mile Oak, Hallsham v Portlied, Hasoocks v Whitehawk, Horsham YMCA v Pagham, Langney Sporis v Oalwood, Ringmer v Burgers Hill; Starroc v Paacehaven and Telscombe, Wick v Shoreham Shoreham
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First
division: Beckerham v Whistaible. Comthran v Sheppey: Crockenhill v Camlerbury.
Favensham v Deal. Greenwich v
Thamasmead, Hythe v Hems Bay Stade
Green v Folkastone Invicia.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Pramier division:
Amondsbury v Endateigh. Banbury v
Shortwood: Bicaster v Tuffley: Burnham v
Asingdon Uid. Carlerton v North Leigh,
Nirlibury v Fairford Swindon Supermanne v
Didcol
WITERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLI-

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Prifertink Express MiDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Halesowen H. Bolehall S v
Rocester: Kympersley V v Boldmare S to
Perstoner T v Chasectom, Rushall O v W Mid
Police: Sandwell v Shepshed D, Staperhill v
Hinckley Alb. Strafford T v Strinal T:
Willemial v Oldbury U
BANKC'S BODDWIFF V 1 EAGL HE: Streeter Willeman V Oldoury C BANICS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Blowinch S v Walsaf Wood, Gomel A v Makern T, Hill Top R v Lye T; Ludlow T v Darlaston' Stafford i V Westlefts. Stourport S v Ettingshafi H; Tividale v Pelsoff V. Wednesfield v Brigitey Hill T.

TOMORROW

RUGBY LEAGUE kick-off 3 Q unless stated Stones Super League Castleford v Wigan (6.0) Sheffield v London (6.0) Newcastle v Asion Villa (4.0) Endsleigh Insurance League First division St Hatens v Bradford First division Dewsbury v Hull Huddersheld v Keighley (3.30)...

Potherham v Shrewsbury Bell's Scottish League Premier division Hibernan v Celtic (1.15) BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern LEAGUE OF WALES; Ebbw Vale v Brilor

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Auto Windscreens Shield

Second division
Bramley v Chorley (5.0)
Hulf I-R v Prescor
Hunslet v Leigh (3.30)
Swinton v Doncaster (6.30)
York v Carriste (3.15) HOCKEY Inter-League Play-offs (at Milton Keynes) fetty Bord gais league of Ireland: Promier division: Derry v Cork (2:0)

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League. Doncaster Belles v Arisenal Evenon v Wermbey Meeton v Milwall Lightesses Wolvortampron v Zroydon. Harborne v Weston-super-Mare (11 0) Lewes v laswich (1.0)

Second division

SURREY COUNTY CUP: Final; Sulton and Epsom v Esher (a) Old Blues, Motspur Park, OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World League London Monarchs v Scotlish Claymores London Monarchs v ((While Hart Lane, 3.0). BOWLS. Men's English indoor champion-ships (Mellon Mowbray). CYCLING: Archer FIC 106 miles Grand Pro-LACROSSE: Shepherds Friendly Society League: Premier division: Mellor v Shelfield MOTOR_SPORT: Formula Three champ-

SNOOKER: European League (Diamond Centre, Inhingborough) SPEEDWAY, British under-21 champ-lonship: Semi-final Mildenhall, 3,301 VOLLEYBALL National League: Women: Pirst division: Manchester United Salvid v Britanna Music City Organizari v Britanna Music City Organizari v Shorfield Wednesday V Shorfield Wednesday

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBENATION Premier division: Blazyrch v Knowle: Kuros Premier division: Blownich v Knowle Kings Heath v Highgale, Massey Ferguson v Alvechurch Villa, Mer KA v Shriley, Northigld v Ansells, Clan Royale v Chelmsley, Studiey Bkt. v Coverny Sphrib. Lindon v Southern Mettecheren Handrahan Timbers, West Midland Fire

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Letchworth v Brache Sprata: Hoyston v Buckengham Ath. Beggleswade v Harpenden, Potter's Bar v London Coheey Arlessy Tn v Langford. Durstable v Mitton Keynes. Hoddeedon v Shiftington, Haffield v Toddington, NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belger Town v Stocksbridge PS. Denaby v Armthorpe Wellara, Hatfield Main v Ashfield Hucknall v

Gode, Liversedge v Glasshoughton Wel-fare, North Ferriby v Ossett In. Osset Ablion v Meitby MW Pickermg v Haltern. Sheffield v Brigg Tr., Thackley v Amold NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First división: Bladipool Rovers v Mossley. Bootile v Chadderton Derven v Eastwood H, Kidsgrove v Glossop North End Marie Road v Trationd, Pennth v Sketnersdale, St Helens v Prescot

REDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v RTM Neucastle: Cheater-te-Street v Seaham Red Star; Consett v Shidon Duntam v Gusborough; Fernyhil v Tow Lav; Murton v Dunston Federation, Petertee v Eppleton CW Wes; Auckland v Crook, Which-ham v Bedington Temers, Whitby v Stockton. ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Final: Old Brentwoods v Lancing Old Boys (Motspur Part, Lungston-upon-Tharmes), Premiler division: Alderingmans v Commelicans, Carthusians v Chomelicans, Chapwellans v Foresters First division: Harrowlans v Hailoyburians; Salopians v Wellindburans

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier diversion Cardnal Manning v Otal Hamplonians, Otal Aloyasins v Glyn, Old Dense v Otal Ignatians Old Meadonans v Laymer Senter first division: Old Salvatorians v Otal Tenspounans R, Old Salvatorians v Otal Vaugnamens, Old Tiffirhans v Shene SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Caroletton v Norsomen: Crouch End Vampires v East Barno; OG, Kew Association: Serciays Bank Second division: Benclays Bank v Alexandra Paric, Lioyds Bank v Polytechnic. Old Lyonans v Old Promiteans. Old Stationers v Old Parlyonians. Third division: Aleyn Old Boys v Merion, Broomheld v Regale Pnory. Old Westminster Cricens v Bank of England SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Notisborough v Partheid Old Owers v Southgale Courty St Mary's College v Ulyssas. Widan v Hale End Am Sentor two: Cornthan Casuals v Ealing Assoc. Mill Hill Village v Wardsworth Borough, Old Bealonnan v City of London; Old Finchletans v Hadley Old Woodhouselans v UCL Academicals

FUGBY LEAGUE Stones Super League

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE, Promarticipal conference Leatable Manager distance Egermant v Hamel Hemp-clead (2.30), Hewarth v Seddleworth (2.30); Lock Lane v Millom (2.30), Mayfield v Lagh Millom Vettare (2.30), Wgan St Patricle v Dudtey HR (2.30), Wootston v West Hull (2.30)

RUGBY UNION Kick-off 30 unless stated Courage Clubs Championship Bristol v Leicester (2.15) Harlequins v Gloucester Sale v West Hartlepool

Bedford v Moseley Blackheath v London Irish Newcastle v London Scottish Northampton v Waterloo Third division Hamogate v Reading
Otley v Money
Richmond v Roselyn Park
Rotherham v Fylde
Rugby v Coventry Fourth division

Second division

Aspatria v Leeris
Exeter v Clifton
Havanit v Walsali
Liverpool St Hefens v London Welsh
Redruth v Plymouth Swalec Cup Semi-finals Llanefi v Pontypridd (at Bridgend, 1 30) Neath v Newport (al Cardiff, 3.15)

Heineken League First division Swansea v Cardiff (2 30) Second division Aberoynon v Llanharen (2.30) . Bonymaen v Caerphilly (2.30) . Durivant v Llandovery (2.30) THIRD DIVISION: Builth Wells v Mountain Ash Kentig Hill v Blackwood Tennents 1556 Bowl

First round Aberdeen GSFP v Hillhead/Jordan Hill Insurance Corporation League Ballymena v Young Munster (2.30) instaniens v Shannon (2.30) Old Belvedere v Blackrock College (2.30) Old Wesley v Cork Constitution (2.30) St Mary's College v Lansdowne (2.30)

Second division Gloniari v Malone (2 30) Greysloves v Dungannon (2 30) NIFC v Old Crescent (2 30) Terenura Coll v Dotphin (2 30) Wanderers v Bective Rangers (2 30)

Club matches Cuto matches
Askeans v Newbury
Barking v Charlton Park
Berry Hill v Gordon League
Chettenham v Barnsraple
Ebbw Vale v Dumvari (2 30)
High Wycomibe v Sudbury
Lichlield v Henley
Macsleg v Newbindge (2 30)
Numeation v Towceatrians
Pontypool v Bridgend
Colore v Haliax
Colore v Haliax Stoke v Halifax Stoke v Halifax Weston-super-Mare v Laumeston Winnington Park v Vitilichurch

CRICKET University match 11 30 to 6 30, first day of three

The Parks: Oxford University v Leicestershire. HOCKEY Inter-League play-offs (at Milton Keynes)

Hampstead v Ipswich (9.0)
Oxford Hawks v Harbonne (10.50)
Weston-super-Mare v Bromley (12.40)
Warrington v Lewes (5.30) ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier di-vision B: Dereham v Sudbury: Norwich City v Romford

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: Great Britain v Holland (Milton Keynes, 3,15). V HOLBERG I INSULATION TO THE PROPERTY OF THE South-Caristra Life, Priss Gersant: Bradicist Swithenbank v Emrouth, Chelmstord v Wishbledon, Sundersand Bedanc v Wishbledon; Sundersand Bedanc v Blueharts; Trojens v Certischury, Second chiriston: Ealing v Reading; Loughborough v Otton, Sherwood v Woking; St Albans v Aldridge.

OTHER SPORT ATHLETICS: Bupe international road races

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chem-pionehip play-offe: Querter-firale, first leg. Derby v Birmingham (8.0); Menchester v Leoperds (7.30). Thames Valley v London (8.0), Worthing v Shoffield (8.0). BOWLS: Men's English indoor chample ships (Melton Moworay)

ships (Melton Mowbray)

BOXING: World Boding Organisation waterweight championship: Earnern Loughran (Ballymena, holder) v Jorga Lus Lopez (Mex). World Boding Organisation hyweight championship: Baby Jake Matida (SA, holder) v Paul Wear (Soot). World Boding Organisation, historic miter-confinential super-middleweight championship (vecant): Paul Winght (Liverpool) v Stephen Wilson (Wallyton), Eventon Park Sports Cantre, Liverpool). British Tight-middleweight championship: Ensigh Brighten (Manchester, holder) v Gary Logan (Bradon) (Wythenshave Forum, Manchester)

CYCLING: Southgate CC (10 miles, Little JUDO: British championships (Berning-ham)

LACROSSE: Men: South of England Flags: Finals (at Motspur Park). First division: Kenton v Hampstead (3.0). Intermediata: Leigh v Croydon (noon). Minor: Cambridge University v Kenton A (noon) stepherds Friendly Society League: Premier division: Heaton Marvey v Imperiev. Meltor v Humears. Women: International match: Scotland v England (Hertot Wett University, Eduburgh)

SNOOKER: European League (Diamond Centre, Irthingborough) SPEEDWAY: Premier Lasgue: Bradiond v Eveter (7:30), Covernry v Holl (7:30), Cradley Health and Stoke v Oxford (et Stoke, 7:30); Eastbourne v London (7:30), Swindon v Belle Vus (7:30). VOLLEYBALL: National League: Merr.
First division: Navisatio (Slatis) v Tooting
Aquita: Team Mizuro Malory Lawharn v
Winatistd Women: First division; KLEA
Leads v London Malory, Sheff Wed v
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LAPYICOLDA.

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Sherry joins Friday trunk slammers



ANDREW LONGMORE At The Masters

he Kilmarnock FC cap will have to be consigned to the shelf along with the amateur status. This morning. Gordon Sherry can wake up, shout into the shaving mirror "I am a professional" and start piling up his first million. From now on, the cap will be home to sponsors' logos only and the head full of the habitually anxious thoughts of the professional golfer.

The change was not meant to occur this early. Monday morning was the scheduled moment for crossing the bar, but the Augusta National golf course had the final say, reducing the British Amateur champion to the same fate as most of his predecessors and lending firm perspective to some of the wilder

claims made on his behalf. Bob Torrance even suggested the young Scot could win the tournament. For all his natural modesty and good humour. Sherry half believed it.

"In one sense, it's been the worst experience of my golfing life," he said. "I haven't shot scores like that for four years. But in the long term, it will stand me in good stead. The most important thing now is that I can concentrate on my career."

Reality dawned early on the opening day, which ended in a 78, and yesterday's honourable round of 77 was not nearly good enough to banish the two most dreaded words in the professionals' vocabulary—missed cut. Or, as they say in the States, a trunk slammer, the trunk being the boot of the car. the term a reference to slamming the boot shut on a

Friday night with the clubs

inside. He may as well start getting the lingo right.

To be fair to Sherry, he was just beginning to get the lie of the land when the land ran out. Another two days of education and he might have become the first British amateur to break par for a round, because he was striking the last well well and often into

the right places. His outward half was one over, six shots better than his first attempt, and included three missed birdie putts, the sort that will need to drop if he is to make a living as a professional.

But a horrible second shot to the 10th green for a five set the tone for the final holes and a tap-in for bogey on the 18th was not quite the dashing end to his amateur days Sherry would have wished for. At least, he was still allowed the luxury of laughing at his fate, for all his disappointment. His purse is no lighter than it was on Thursday morning. He has no children waiting at home to be fed, no mortgage to pay, nobody depending on him to hit fairways and sink putts.

'I haven't shot scores like that for years' filled expectations will be his own. For the second day, Sherry was paired with Fred Couples, which is unusual. In contrast to the other majors, the Masters reverts to paire second or the other majors. The majors is the majors or the other ma

second day not the third. So players rarely have the same partner twice. But the former Masters champion had matched Sherry bogey for bogey in the first round and stayed in his company for the second. They made an odd couple. Sherry, 21 and 6ft 8in, with a shambling gait and a ready smile; Couples, nine inches shorter and 15 years older, ever neat, elegant and nonchalant. You can never tell whether Couples is winning or losing. He seems to be whistling either way.

Two days trying to unravel

Two days trying to unravel Augusta gave the pair a common bond, like fellow puzzlers despairing over a 2,000-piece jigsaw. Sherry doffed his cap and bowed when Couples chipped in for a much-needed birdie on the 3rd, and Couples told Sherry he would do fine in his new career.

Sherry's new life starts at Bergamo in the Italian Open next month. In the meantime, he will return to Stirling University to rest, complete



Sherry tees off at the 2nd in his improved second round at Augusta yesterday, but the Scot still missed the cut

the formalities of his course in bio-chemistry and, most probably, put his signature to one of a number of contracts earned by his exploits over the past year. In practical terms, turning professional involves nothing more complicated than armouncing the fact to himself this morning and paying a \$2,000 fee to the Euro-

pean Tour for affiliate membership. Then it is up to him. Sponsors will invite him to tournaments, a maximum of seven in the year, and Sherry will need to make about £50.000 from them to win his players' card automatically for next year.

If not, he will have to qualify through the tour school, an

ignominy which will make two sunny days in Augusta seem no more than a hazy dream. Actually playing like a pro, thinking like a pro, turning the golf course from a playpen into an office, a pastime into a business, will involve rather more than even Sherry might have anticipated. There will be many days

when the routine does not encourage a smile or a joke nor the sort of mollycoddling he has enjoyed in Augusta. "I'll definitely be back, though whether it will be next year or not, I don't know," he said. The Italian Open is the most important tournament for me this year — I still haven't

Harrow suffer surprise defeat

BY MELWEBB

THE Halford Hewitt Cup is one of those golf competitions that the cynical might call anachronistic, out of date: in short, a bit of a sporting dinosaur. Those who care about the traditions of the game would say something quite different, and they would be right.

The Halford Hewitt, run by the Public Schools' Golfing Society, is a foursomes matchplay event that has been played at this time of year since 1924, apart from the period between 1940 and 1946, when the British were engaged in another matchplay event — winner takes all.

It is probably the biggest event of its kind anywhere, and seems to imbue all who play in it with the intention. come hell or high water, to keep coming back for more. It is cosy, certainly, a touch incestuous even, but, to experience its uniquely clubbable atmosphere is to understand its powers of attraction.

More often than not, the event clashes with another small golfing occasion on the other side of the Atlantic. No matter what is going on in Augusta, however, the Halford Hewitt is not, its players and organisers insist, a moveable feast.

The event is held, for the first two days at least, at Royal St George's in Sandwich and Royal Cinque Ports down the road at Deal, the latter of which hosts the final two days

which hosts the final two days.
The weather in this part of
Kent at this time of year is not
noted for its even temper, but
that does not put off the old
boys of the nation's public
schools. It was at educational
establishments such as these
that the stiff upper lip was
invented.

The second round of the competition. yesterday, brought one small surprise when Charterhouse defeated Harrow, the 1995 champions, 3-2. It is not that Carthusians are unused to success in this competition — they have won it 14 times — but it was the first time that they have beaten their old rivals since the war. No matter what happens now. Charterhouse have already carved the notch in their bow that they prize above all others.

Garcia's goals put gloss on victory

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN IN ATLANTA

GREAT Britain could reflect on a job well done yesterday after opening their campaign in the six nations' hockey tournament here with a 5-2 defeat of the United States. They had made a winning start to what will be a demanding tournament and survived the challenges posed by the practice pitch at the Clarke

the practice pitch at the Clarke University stadium. With the stadium's main pitch still undergoing final preparations, the practice pitch staged the event's opening three matches and Britain had the benefit of watching Pakistan beat Argentina 4-1 and India score three goals without reply against South Korea before taking the field themselves. Indeed, Mansoorul-Hassan, the Pakistan coach, complained that the pitch had not been properly watered, the surface was bumpy and that ball control was difficult, leaving the British in no doubt about the

conditions they were to face. The skill level of Britain's match against the United States was consequently low. but a cat-and-mouse affair ended in a decisive victory. By half-time. Britain had established a 1-0 lead, through Robert Thompson, but that was cancelled out four minutes into the second half by Amar. Further misfortune was to follow with Garcia putting a penalty stroke against a post. However, Thompson restored the lead and Giles, showing personal relish, converted a short corner to make it 3-1. The advantage was suddenly cut by a well-taken goal from El Maghraby, a former Egypt international, before Garcia wrapped things up with two late goals.

With luck, Britain should play their next match today against Pakistan on a newly-laid artificial rurf main pitch, on which the contractors have been working flat out over the past couple of days. Although Shahbaz Ahmed, the renowned Pakistan captain, is not with the team because of domestic problems, the ease with which Pakistan scored four goals in the second half should be a grim reminder of their potential.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

PARIS: European club championship Third-place play-off: CSKA Moscow 7. Real Madnd 73 Final: Panathinalios 6

CRICKET

SHARJAH: United Arab Emirates: Sharjah Cup (60 overs) Pakisian 271-5 (Aamis Sonal 105), India 233 (N Monga 69). Pakistan beal India by 38 runs BRUSSELS: European colls indoor tourament: Brussels 52. Wellington 53-1; Viellington 138-6, Hurstpierpoini 72: Turo 177-1, Germany 65-8; Hurstpierpoini 72: Turo 177-1, Germany 65-8; Hurstpierpoini 189-4; N Creed 40). Antwerp 22 all cut. Antwerp 70, Trum 71-2. Final (under-18). Turo 210, Antwerp 52. Final (under-18). Turo 210, 141-9 (D Cox 55). Hurstpierpoint 134-9 (N Creed 50 not out). ToUPR MATCH: West of England Schools Under-15 109-8; Timided Under-17 111-3

CYCLING

SOUE TOUR: (198km Viona cumbern) 1, F Frattin (II) Snr 10 soc; 2, L Jalabert (Fn), 3, D Rebellin (II)

FOOTBALL
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Notingham Forest 1 Leads United

division: Brachard 2 Sunderlend 3.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Bath 2 Newport AFC 0.
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier division: Postponeck repussive vi Manne.
IOS-LEAGUE: First division: Bilericay 3
Barking D Third division: Ageley 1
Weaddstone 1; Epsorm and Ewel 11 Timp 1
Cartion trophy: Semi-first replay:
Hungerlord 1 Camey Island 2
SPRINGHEATH PRINT: Capital League:
Reading 1 Southerd 3
COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Merstham 3 Bedont 5.

mier division: Mersham 3 Bediont 5.

BNDS LEIGH MIDLAND COMBRNATION:
Premier division: Knowle 1 Southern 1:
Massey Ferguson 2 West Mediant Fire
Service 1: Nordisels 2 Olton Royale 2
Upton 0 Saudley 8 KL 3
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier division:
Odd Down 2 Mangotsfield 2
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Willerhei 2 Bernett 1
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES
LEAGUE Premier division:

Watton 1.

LONDON FA CHALLENGE CUP: Semiinal: Layton Permant 2 Hampton 1
ManNERVA SOUTH MEDLANDS LEAGUE:
Premier division: Langton 1 Royston 2:
SUBURBAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Brunley 1 Martow 2
ITALIAN LEAGUE: Alalanta 1 Barl 2;
Cagitan 1 Melan 2: Internazionale 0
Sampdons 2; Juventus 2 Udinese 1; Lazio 4
Florentina 0; Napod 1 Tonno 0; Padowa 1
Rema 2; Parma 2 Cremonese 0; Padema 0;
Vicenza 1,
GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayern Munich 1 St

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TOP-FLITE
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Paul 1. Werner Bramen 2 Borussia Moembragamant 3 Fortura Cusseldorf 2 Kassersauten 1. Hamburg 0 Freburg 0 FRENCH LEAGUE Met 2 Escha 3 Lyons 1 Gungamo 1 DUTCH LEAGUE: Foyerbord Roserdam 1 Sparis Rosserdorf 1: Graafschap Doeschem 1 PSV Studiesen 1.

BRAZIJAN I LAGUE: Copa Brasit, Second round, second top, Crouma & Furnieres 1 (Croums em 4.2 cm ang.) São Paulo championship: Amarda 1 Mog. Merm 0, Sosalogo 2 Fernama 1 Guaran 1 Unan São João 1, Paimeras 4 Narorizonamo 0; Ro de Jameiro championship: Esperuma 1 Flameiro championship: Esperuma 1 Flameiro Championship: Esperuma 1 Flameiro Championship: Esperuma 2 Port UGUESE CUP: Semi-finals: Porto 1 Sporting 1 (ser); Bertima 2 Uniao Lema 0 (ser).

RNTERNATIONAL MATCH: Croalia 4 Humgary 1 (at Ostjalu

retirement interest to the property of at Ostation 1 Sensor 1 Fig. 1 Sensor 1

1: Leeds 4 South Streids 1: Leeds B 4
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Manchester 1 Reading 0, Humangdon 2
Stockport 1. Brienly PG 0 Domoster 1
Wellingborough 1 Havard 1. Covertry 3
Pymouth 1, East Cormal 1 Backburn 2,
Peerborough 3 Potherham 8, Bishop Auckland 1 Bury 2 Getestiese 7 Madistone 1, Vale
of White Horse 3 West Tyne 0. Basingstoke 0
South Tymestie 4, Gravestram 0 United States region 2, 8 Shaffield 1 Gosport 1.
East Berks 2 Leeds 2,
Palasfield Feetbach Northumberland 7
Sumey 1; Namseyside 1 Somerset 1; Durham 1
Shropshire 1; Lincolnshire 1 Essex 5: West Madiston 2 Nothinghershire 8 1

Strapshire 1, Lincolnshire 1 Essex 5: Westland 2 Nothinghamshire 2, Hampshire 1 in 18 1; Dorset 6 0 list of Man 1; Kerr inherits 2. Bedfordshire 0 Mornt Vorkshire 1 mineral 2. Somerset 8 2 Merseyacte 8 2 moshire 1 Hampshire 5. North Vorkshire 1 mineral 2. Somerset 8 2 Merseyacte 8 2 moshire 8 0 Essex 8 5: Somerset 5 Kernt 1 wiset 0 Durham 2. Surrey 1 West Michards, Northams 2. Messeyacte 3. Comusal 6. Inhampshire 8 2 Essex 8 3 copation 8 2 lists of Man 0; Hampshire 5 straphamshire 2. Essex 7. Cheshire 5 occiliative 2 North Yorkshire 3, Strapshire 5 editordshire 1; Kerl 8 4 Somerset 8 1; resystate 1 Dorset 80.

GOLF

HALFORD HEWITT CUP (Royal Crique
Ports, Deal and St George's, Sandwich) First
roundt. Royal Crisque Ports. Bedford 3
Mashorough 2: Wasson's 4 Chelterhesm 1:
Luerpool 5 Bishop's Storrford 5-0 St
George's: Dubwich 5 Westminster 0:
Glensmond 3% Chiquell 1%; Bradheld 4 St
Bees 1: Lanning 3 Bestbourne 2: Crarleigh
3k: Loratto 1%; Forest 3 Brighton 2; Repton

THE *** TIMES

RACING

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Interd rounce Deat: Merchaston 3 Merchant Taylors?

NEWPORT: Monarouthshise Women's Championship: First Rounct. J. O'Connor Newpord bi S. Mansden (Tredegar Park) 7 and 6, K. Krigin (Morrinouth) bi S. Worthy (Devistow) 4 and 2. D. Hill (Raighan Park) bi L. Edwisds (Morrinouthshise) 2 and 1, S. Cowe Sr. Pierre) bi D. Spany (Morrinouthshise) 6 and 5; J. Phitchiard (Indegar Park) bi C. Hames (Lanwern) 1 up: S. Patilistson (St. Pierre) bi P. Isaacs (Bryn Meadones) 2 and 1; C. Warte (Newport) at T. Griffiths (Newport) 7 and 6, R. Frantidin (St. Pierre) bi S. O'Sullivan (Lanwern) at 20th. Cluster-farals: O'Connor bi Knight S. and 4; Hill bit Cowie 6 and 5. SOUTHERNDOWN: Glarmorgan Women's Championship: Qualifying Scores: 78: V. Thomas (Pennard) 81: K. Stark (Brynhill). V. MacKerude (Mitschurch) 85: F. Sheshan (Pennard), C. Davies (Porthardswe), 86: L. Jones (Royal Porthasw), 87: D. Richards (Bargoed), J. Evans (Olyne)

HOCKEY

ATLANTA: Sto-nation sournament: Pakestan 4 Angentine 1: Great Britain 5 USA 2; Inde 3 South Korea 0 Mat.ToN KEYNES: Inter-league play-offer Pool 1: Harborne 0 Bromley 2; Pool 2: Hampslead 0 Lewes 0; Ipswich 0 Warrington

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL). Burtato 5
Ottaws 2: Detroit 5 Wintippeg 2; Florida 1
Tamps Bay 2; New Jersey 1 Philodelphia 5;
NY Rangers 1 Washington 4; Pittisburgh 2: NY Istanders 8; Colorado 7 Anshelm 3; Edmonton 2

Philadelphia 3 Montreal 2. Washington 2 Ne Janey 3, Chicago 5 Toronto 2: St Loue Colorado 3 EINDHOVEN: World champlonships: Pot B: Switzerland 7 Britain 2. RUGBY UNION

SAILING
SIMONSTOWN, South Africe: BP Laser
Class World chemplonships: 1, R Schleid:
(87): 2, B Arsile (GB): 3, I Percy (GB), 4 K
Sunspon (Swe): 5, G Pjorent (Ft).

CLUB MATCH: Lichfield 17 HM Prisons 17

ANTIBES: French Open First round: J Pouse (Carl) bt J Rensome (Eng) B-1, 9-6, 9t. P Gregory (Eng) bt M Caims (Eng) 7-9, 4-9, 9-4, 9-2, 9-4, P Johnson (Eng) bt C Rowland (Aus) 9-5, 9-5, 9-2, B Martin (Aus) bt A Barada (Egypt) 3-9, 9-4, 10-9, 9-0; A Hill (Aus) bt D Forstund (Swe) 9-3, 9-4, 9-9; A J Khan (Palvistari) bt A Wajin (Egypt) 9-6, 6-9, 4-9, 9-1, 9-4, 9-7; R Eyles (Aus) bt A Fazzy (Egypt) 9-3, 8-10, 9-3, 9-3

TENNIS

LISBON: Estorit Open: F Clavet (Spl) bt S
Pescasolido (b) 7-6, 6-1; C Costa (Sp) bt B
Mote (Por), 8-2, 7-5, Cluenter-Sneltz T Muster
(Austrie) bt F Clavet (Sp), 6-4, 6-2; P Hashtuis
(Hol) bt R Fromberg (Aus.) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4; A
Gaudenti (ii) bt T Carbonell (Sp), 6-3, 6-1,
AMELIA ISLAND: Women's tournament
(US unless estres): Third round: C Memore
(Sp) bt J Huserove (Storakte) 6-0, 6-0; A
Sinchez Viceno (Sp) bt T Jecmentics (Yug) 45, 6-3, 6-1; S Hack (Ger) bt C Rubin (US) 6-1,
6-0, M-J Fermandez (US) bt P Susrez (Arg) 76, 6-0; I Spirles (Rom) bt V Rueno-Pescus!
(Sp) 7-5, 6-0; M McGreth (US) bt V Membre
(Ger) 8-2, 6-1; B Schett (Aus) bt V Membre
(Ger) 8-2, 6-1; B Schett (Aus) bt V Membre
(Ger) 8-2, 6-3.

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urling faces

Gosden frustrated by lack of options for graduates

IN BYGONE seasons, punters anxious to identify the best three-year-olds could assume that maiden winners graduating to group company for their second outing offered as fertile

a source as any.
Indeed, eyebrows would be raised when prominent trainers campaigned their horses in this way. It was a tell-tale sign: a clear statement that here was a horse of enormous potential. However, major surgery to the Flat programme has rendered such

thinking redundant.

A deliberate shortage of conditions races leaves trainers with little option but to tilt at a classic trial. Yet many punters have been slow to react. To them, a two-year-old maiden winner reappearing in the Craven Stakes - as will Pommard on Thursday - is a horse to conjure with.

Of course. Pommard must have shown encouragement for his trainer to entertain the ideal But John Gosden is a reluciant participant. He will saddle the horse almost by default. "I have been hunting through the programme book

furlongs or a mile for Pommard," Gosden said.

With the exception of the Thirsk Classic Trial, there was nothing at all between the one at Doncaster on March 23 and another at Sandown on April 26. Horses like Pommard are forced to start off in the trials so that the fields have depth. Personally. I don't think that is

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Direct Route Next best: Sheriffmuir (2.00 Newton Abbot)

good planning for the horse but I have no choice."

Gosden's pre-race pronouncements have long resounded with punters. He is not averse to declare his horse in need of a race, or unsuited to the prevailing ground. All of which makes you wonder how Pommard has come to plummet in the 2000 Guineas antepost market. "Sure. he is a nice colt in the making," the trainer

ning in the Craven Stakes. He has not done much work and is totally unproven.

In this respect Gosden's dilemma is exacerbated many times over. If the likes of Maiden Castle, Santillana, Kerry Ring and Sacho are similarly unproven, that has not stopped them being ad-vanced as classic candidates ahead of proven juveniles like

Their lustre lies entirely in their potential, an addictive drug to those whiling away the weeks before Newmarket's Craven meeting.

Gosden's string approaches the fixture three weeks behind schedule. "The spring has not been kind to any of us." he "Most of my horses will benefit from their first race more than usual. Full marks to anyone who has their horses 100 per cent fit at this stage but mine are just not

This was apparent on Easter Monday, when Gosden dispatched four runners to Kempton Park. Atlantic Storm, River Captain, Inquisitor and Voodoo Rocket were all prominent in the betting;

sixth and ninth respectively. And the muscle injury sus-tained by Lord Of Men has hampered his preparation for the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French 2,000 Guineas) next month.

Sacho, a son of Sadler's Wells and Oh So Sharp, has suffered a minor interruption to his training but is to reappear in maiden company, either at Newmarket or Newbury. Sacho appeals as a genuine Derby prospect but he does not appreciate a fast surface. Should he make it to Epsom, dry ground would surely compromise him.

Another possible classic candidate, Darling Flame, may contest the Nell Gwyn Stakes on Tuesday if she works satisfactorily today. Kerry Ring and Maiden Castle - the latter described as still on the weak side - are also due to run next week.

But followers of the stable should not expect too much until the weather relents. If you are heading for the Craven meeting, the message from Gosden is clear. Pack your thermals instead of your

3.40 Around The Horn 4.15 Sparkling Yasmin

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING



Darling Flame, who opened her account at Newbury last term, is a possible for the Nell Gwyn Stakes on Tuesday

Signs point to **Direct Route**

BBCI

2.00: This appears to be a match between the two top weights. More rain would favour Call It A Day, whose best form has been with some give in the ground. while Senor El Betrutti fayours a faster surface. The pair met at Wetherby behind Mr Mulligan in January, when the selection finished second. Senor El Betrutti was pulled up that day over a trip which was almost certainly too far and disappointed at Aintree to

2.35: It is rare for official British Horseracing Board assessors to let in novices lightly for their handicap debut, but I believe Direct Route has been allotted considerably less weight than he is entitled to carry given his progressive form.

Howard Johnson's fiveyear-old, who was an aboveaverage bumper horse, won his first two starts over hurdles in striking fashion and only just failed to peg back his half-brother. Penny A Day, in a valuable race at Kelso six weeks ago. He looks thrown in here and well worth a bet.

Non Vintage, a course and

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distance winner, goes well in big fields on right-handed courses and looks the main

3.10: Staunch Friend, eighth to Collier Bay in the Champion Hurdle, tries this trip for the first time but would enter calculations if there is sufficient overnight rain. Silver Wedge finished fifth in the Stayers' Hurdle and will be thereabouts, although he is far from an easy ride.

Preference is for the Robert Alner-trained Gillan Cove. who followed up his second to Seekin Cash over this course and distance in February with a neck defeat. running on strongly, by Great Easeby in the Gold Card Final at the Cheltenham Festival last month.

RICHARD EVANS

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Hexham (first race 2.10), Musselburgh (2.00), Southwell (2.20)

TUESDAY: Folkestone (1.50), Healing (2.10). Newmarket (C4, 2.00)

WEDNESDAY: Cheltenham (2.20), Newmarket (C4, 2.00), Pontefract

THURSDAY: Ayr (2.20), Newmarket (C4, 2.00), Ripon (2.30)

FRIDAY: Avr (2 00). Newbury (BBC, 2 10). Thirsk (2.15)

SATURDAY Ascot (5.15), Ayr (C4, 1.55), Bangor (2.10), Newbury (BBC, 2.00), Stratford (5.30), Thirsk (2.15)

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Çall It A Day

2.35 Direct Route

4.45 King's Treasure The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 SPARKLING YASMIN.

Going. Good to firm

2.00 KESTREL NOVICES CHASE (£5 550 2m 3f 110yd) (4 runners)

5-1212 CALL (TA DAY 31 (D.S.S) Mars a tame) 0 Nucherton 6-11-12 61P12P SONOR B. BETRUTTI 16 (CD.F.G.S) 10 Nuche 15th 5-No.5-7-11-12 18C3TR PREBERLEY PLACE 16 (G.S.) (A Carper 1) Transfor-James 6-11-9 00U0PP MILO BOY 81 (A Nores) M Chapman 5-16-12 SETTENS, 3-11 Call III A Day 7-4 Serge El Betruto, 6-1 Primitation Place 100-1 Maio Boy 1995, 80 NNOWS BEST 6-11-9 to Signator, 5-41 G M Moore 3 run

FORM FOCUS

CALL IT A DAY 191 and of 13 to Old Bridge in the scale production are start. PIMBERLEY PLACE best effort 7 to 1 and 0 f 7 to Loid Direct in novice of scale at Sandown (2m. good 1 see Call f 2m. good to Sandown (2m. good 1 see Call f A DAY).

2.35 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,732, 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

062161 KINGSFOLD PET 21 (D.G.S) (Exert of 6 kye) ki Havnes 7-11-10 005963 NON VERTAGE 30 (cD.G.S) (A Manni M Chapman 5-11-5 110904 THORMTON GATE 14 (D.F.G.S) (O' Beament 15 Eacherty 7-11-4 203U2F SUBLIME FELLOW 16 (D.G) (Ladv Godstmith) N Headerton 6-11-0 50021 (A MARKED 30 O' 13 LP) Loyfold (Externed 6-10-1) 500210 AMANCIO 30 (D.S.) (*) Locke) & Harmond 5-10-3 201120 NAITAK 14 (D.G.) (*) Minghy J Carr 5-10-1 305015 ALBEMBIE 14 (D.F. 6) (6 Ward) Ms. J Ceci 7-10-1 112112 ORRECT ROUTE 43 (D.F. 6). (*) Hardy M. Haced (*) 10-4 114P-P5 LUBAMBAR DAYS 15 (D.F. 5) (*) Hardy M. Haced (*) 10-4 4-11444 NAGLAT 161 (B.D.F.) (*) Whitley D. Gandolfo 7-10-1 122.P0 HEDGEHOPPER 7 (D.C.S.) (*) Davis (*) Wesdon 8-10-0 41-0363 SUWEZ 10 (D.F. 6.S.) (*) Witchnell Mc N. Maccaley 6-10-0 PSOR-1-5 OZZE JONES 302 (D.F.) (M.O Donnell) M. Chapman 5-10-0

Long handicap: Hedgehopper 9-12, Survez 9-10, Oztre Jones 8-12. BETTING: 7-2 Direct Route 5-1 America. Kingstold Pet, 11-2 Thornton Gate, 6-1 Lumumba Days, 9-1 Albertone 12-1 Sublime Fellow, Non Vintage, 20-1 Kartak, Nadijati Survey, 50-1 others. 1995: ARABIAN BOLD 7-10-3 M A Fitzgerald (6-4) N Henderson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

KINGSFOLD PET beal Frogmarch 2/e1 in 11-namer handican hundle at Newbury (2m 110)rd, heavy) MON WATTAGE 6941 3rd of 28 to Star Rage in grade in 12 miles and distance pool swife beal SUBLIMIE FELLOW (10to better off) 17 off THORNTON GATE 3/41 4th of 17 to Stormpn in handican hundle at Anthew (2m 11) good) with PALBEMINE (18) better off) 17 off THORNTON GATE 3/41 4th of 17 to Stormpn in handican hundle at Anthew (2m 11) good of some at Anthew (2m 11) good of sub PALBEMINE (18) better off) 17 off THORNTON GATE 3/41 4th of 17 to Stormpn in handican hundle at Anthew (2m 12) good to compeniturate at Anthew (2m 12) good to sub PALBEMINE (18) better off) 17 off the Course of the Course off the Course of the

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS 22 31 8 12 25 0 35 20 0 16 18 £ 38 18 4 89 16 9 19 60 18 18 18 65 Miss H Knight D Nicholson

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF.F.G.S) Mits C Paperson, Bina / 12-0 Respond number. So-Squie form 6 — tell 9 — Airmer ST — cester microse in Cast man, pulled up 0 — uncosed oder B — airmost consultation in S — depend up 6 — reduced 0 — the man B — the consultation of Cast man B — the consultation o

3.10 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER LONG DISTANCE HURDLE

3-1010 PLASSES SHARE 15 00 GS (10 Ear Fruit) 5-1040 Memoria 23-3145 SLIVER VEDES 30 (6.85) Wildown Distribution 10 Concessor 1 11 STANDON HERO 32 (6.55) SLIVER VEDES 30 (6.85) Wildown Standon 5-104 Memoria 10 Concessor 10 Conc BETTENS: 5.0 Septemblato TVC Study Watty: 500 Febbors Streets TVC Studyon States 5.0 Single State Stat

1995, CAS ON TARGET AND FANCE IN East Mit Military and the

FORM FOCUS

PLEASURE SHARED that Support Role 7 in 15 interest parts (Setter Lance Harde & Achievalla Court Stewart Court Stew

3.40 PEREGRINE HANDICAP CHASE (£8,520, 2m 3l 110yd) (15 runners)

520. 2m 31 110yd) (15 runners)
1-3420 DANCHE PADDY 31 (CF G S) (France Recorpt Claims and C M. Masson 99
2-Ref 16 MORCH 30 (0.85 Gs) (Also Claims Albor) - Demon and C M. Masson 99
3-2595 STORM ALERT 31 (CF G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 3 North and C Claims (G S)
1-3365 BM ART 31 (CF F G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 3 North and C C Masson 98
1-23165 BM ART 31 (CF F G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 3 North and C C Masson 91
1-23165 BM ART 31 (CF F G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 3 North and C C Masson 91
1-23165 BM ART 31 (CF F G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 1 Passon 1 Passon 91
1-24-SP CMPHARE 49 (CF S) (Mr. 0 Passon 1 Passon 1 Passon 91
1-24-SP CMPHARE 49 (CF S) (Mr. 0 Passon 1 Passon 91
1-34-PR BRANCH SHELL 14 (DF G S) (Mr. 0 Passon 1 Passon 91
1-34-PR BRANCH SHELL 31 (CF S) (Mr. 0 Passon 1 Passon 91
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1-34-PR BRANCH SHELL 31 (Mr

Long handicap. Strong Approach 5-3. Cress Castle 7-11. Pugeta. 7-11. BETTING: 7-2 (Acrosh 4-1 Storm Alex, 5-1 Around The Horn 6-1 Carbong Fairs, 6-1 (ask) From Cheer 12-1 Sig Mar 16-1 others 1995: SEVEN OF DIAMONDS 10-10-0 A Magnife (S-11 P Arrest fire)

FORM FOCUS

DANCING PADDY 71 2nd of 5 to Vilung Flagstup in Emblem Chase at Kempton (2m soft) on penultimate start. CYPTRATE (7th better off led 1st. MORCELI best Mayon Beach distance in 2-tunner conditions stace at Haydock (2m 4f, soft) on penultimate start Markotk 211 and of 6 to Viling Flagstip in grade if Mitcalosto Shogan Chase at Newbury (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start with DANCING PADDY (4th worse off 10f) 4th BIG MATT best effort flus season, beat Martin's Lamp 1/61 in 11-runner grade it Victor Chandler Handical Chase here (2m, good to soft) with DANCING PADDY (7th better off) 111 3rd and NAKIR (23b)

better off) 111-1 Eth STORM ALERT (14th better off) lell 9th and FROMT STREET (3th better off) pulled up before last BISHOPS HALL 41 and at 5 to Adhur S. Microtel on handloap clase at Sandown 15m 1104d, secold to Justices positionate start AROUND THE HORN bear thouse for 114 in 4-range handloap chaes at flexibury (2m 4) soft FROMT STREET beat effort first season beat Alastoris Lamp in 6-runner handloap classes here (2m good) with AROUND THE HORN (111b beater off) distant 4th ELFAST 91 and c15 to Lam; stord in randoup chaes at Utilizate (2m 5) good to firm! Selection: AROUND THE HORN

☐ Byzantium, the John Hammond-trained colt, won the Prix Djebel at Evry yesterday and is a possible for the French or Irish 2,000 Guineas. The Prix Imprudence, an important 1,000 Guineas trial staged at the same track, went to Mahalia. trained by Criquette Head.

GOING: STANDARD

4.15 GET AHEAD GET A HORSE NOVICES HURDLE

SETTING THE Manuary Marking Con Sparking resume 7-1 Baydine Star 6-1 Husting Lore, Mandalay, Hoh Mask 17-1 Ton 17-1 offers

1995 BOUSEY 5-11-10 & Shoomaage (8-1) R Aberburst 10 mm FORM FOCUS

MANDYS MANTEN CONCRESS TESTE, best Butter | DREAM LEADER 11 2nd of 11 to Madame Press The part of the pa

4.45 MERLIN NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs, 62,877, 3m 110yd) (11 numers)

BETTENG, 9-4 Ying's Treature, 7-5 Secre-Tay, 9-2 Royal Instr. 6-1 Authoration, 8-1 Little Mattena, 12-1 Catacol, 14-4 Stormath Prignat, 16-1 others

AROBRENIARI beal Larved 71 m 7-numer open at Tasseldown (good) CARACOL beal Bancyfein on 151 m 11-numer resincted at Env Lon (good) DARBIGLY 751 Sh of 26 to Rolling Ball in Poincases Chase at Ambree (2m 6) good in FATHERS FOOTPRIMTS beat Cool Raccal 31 in Poincases Chase at Ambree (2m 6) good). KINGS THEASURE 41 2nd 61 33 in 024band; Word in concess healer chase at Wincanton (2m 5) soil) Selection; SOME-TOY bear Partiam (good to firm).

5.20 PARTNERSHIP PARADE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

232231 DREAM RIDE 21 (D.S) (6 Mordaunt D Nicholson 6-11-10 ... R Dumwoody 83 2-23113 SUPREME LADY 21 (D.S) (5 Mordaunt D Nicholson 6-11-10 ... R Dumwoody (3) 95 50-0611 CRCUS COLOURS 11 (D.F) (5 Powell J Jenkers 6-11-5 ... G Bradley 92 410-272 NICHOMAN 21 (6) (Mrs. J Cleary). J Fon. 6-10-11 ... S Fox. (3) 92 P-2294 RIVAL BID 9F (6 Witshire) Mrs. N Macaniev 8-10-10 ... L Wyer 97 DSP-5 NARWISKA 14F (6 Witshire) Mrs. N Macaniev 8-10-10 ... W Worthrogton 97 P030605 BRITANERA MILLS 5 (F) (A Mann) Mr Capman 5-10-4 ... E Callaghata (5) 81 1-21125 THE CARROT MAN 92 (F,6) (Mrs. J Winknorth) F Winknorth 8-10-0 C Mande 91

BETTING, 11-10 Dream Ride 7-2 Septeme Lady, 9-2 Circus Colours, 6-1 Intermagic 10-1 Risal Bid 16-1* 1995 HIGH MIND 6-10-13 A Thornton (100-30) Miss L Suddail) 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

OREAM RIDE beat Ramsdens 201 in 12-runner novice hundle at Newbury (2n 110yd heavy) SU-PREME LADY 641 3rd of 19 to Othis Rose in novice hundle at Newbury (2n 110yd heavy) SU-basy) CRCUS COLOURS completed double beat Morks Solvan 345 in a 10-runner novice hundle at novice hundle over course and distance (soft) THE CARROT MAN best effort for season, beat Drong Force 201 in 8-runner handleap chase at Whatsor (2m. good to firm) Setection: MTERMAGIC

GOT A CARD? GET A FREE £10 BET

staking 525 or more using Switch or Delta bank or building society debit cards. RING TODAY BET TODAY

ORON 44 40 40 0800 44 40 40 Free bet is a £10 Straight Forecast on the Ascot 2.35pm today. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)

LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE

7/2 Direct Route 14/1 Sublime Fellow 5/1 Amancio **20/1** Kajtak 5/1 Kingsfold Pet 20/1 Nadjati

11/2 Thornton Gate 20/1 Suivez 6/1 Lumumba Days 50/1 Hedgehopper

150/1 Ozzie Jones 9/1 Albemine 10/1 Non Vintage Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3 Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 2,20pm Tattersal's Rule 4(c) may apply, Non runner - no bet.



TO-OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT PRESPHONE 0800 289 892 WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY

SEDGEFIELD

1.45 Slaught Son. 2.15 Russian Castle. 2.45 Balhemoch. 3.15 Knucklebuster. 3.45 Grand Scenery. 4.15 Prince Yaza. 4.45 Blood Brother.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

1.45 EDEN ARMS SWALLOW HOTEL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,355: 3m 3i 110yd) (8 runners)

2 Sato ABBEY LAMP 39 (CD.6) J-brison 7-11-10. S Taytor 2 D400 MONARU 5 (B.C.BF.F.G.S) Mrs M Reveley 10-10-4 C McCormack 3 P113 SLAUSHT SOM 26 (BF.G.S) Mrs M Reveley 10-10-4 C McCormack 4 4094 C LASSIC CREST 39 (V) C Moor 5-10-2 1 Hopg 15 5 550F GERMAN LEGEND 46 (F) D Lamb 6-10-1 G Cahill 6 P4UD TRESPASSER 35 (B) J J 0 Neit 7-10-4 A Rocks 7 0000 Mrs SCIPH LIDEY 12 (6) Mrs N Whethouse 6-10-0 Chris Webb 8 0000 THARSIS 48 (F.G) W Smb 11-10-9 S Touris Company 1 Mrs Carman 9-2 Crisco Feet 5-1 Mercen 10-10 (B) (Company 10-10-10 (B) Company 10-10 (B) Company 10-10-10 (B) Compan 7-4 Staught Son, 9-4 Abbey Lamp 9-2 Catasic Cless, 5-1 Monaru 18-1 German Legend, 12-1 Trespacser, 20-7 other:

2.15 LORDS TAVERNERS NOVICES CHASE

11-9 Russian Castle, 9-4 Risky Dec, 5-1 Archos Cale Mischevous Girl, 10-1 The Energiste, 33-1 Others

2.45 VAUX HANDICAP HURDLE

1 - 620 LITTLE BROMLEY 119 (F.G.S) A Eubank 3-12-0 D Parker (3)
2 0683 STAY AWAKE 12 (C.BF.F.G.S) Mrs M Reveloy 10-11-11 P Aimen
3 14F1 BALHERNOCH 12 (C.D.F.) T Exterby 7-11-1 P Garniny
4 231F GLENIUGE 5 V.P.C.D.B.F.) G Moore 5-10-9 N Bentley
5 0004 VAL DE RAMA 7 (CD.F.G) Denys Smith 7-10-8 . R Guest
6 0050 BRIEF REUNION S (G) S VydPewell 5-10-6 . J Callaghan
7 1606 BOLANEY GFR. 12 (F) F Muttagh 7-10-0 . A Dubbin
8 05-0 PERSIAN LION 308 F Watson 7-10-0 . B Hambing 11-4 Bathemoch 3-1 Glenugle, 7-2 Stay Awake, 5-1 Little Brymley, 6-1 Val De Rama, 12-1 Brief Rauman, 16-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveloy, 74 winners from 250 numers, 29,6% D Eddy, 4 from 15-26 7%, C Thomfon, 6 from 23, 26,1%, J.J. O'Nelli, 12 Iram 59, 20,3%, 6 Moore, 23 from 141, 16,3%, 5 Kettlewell, 3 from JOCKEYS P Niven, 64 winners from 195 notes, 32.8%, A Roche, 3 from 17, 17.6%, J Cataghan 20 from 122, 16.4%, B Granan, 3 from 20 15.0%, D Ryan, 7 from 49.14.3%, Mr N Wilson, 3 from 21 14.3% 3.15 REG BOYLE MAIDEN HURDLE

(£2,530* 2ff) 5f 110y0) (13)

1 - UPO ABOUL EMR 29 (G) I Walson 9-11-5
2 - 060 BALLYALIA CASTIE 49 R Fisher 7-11-5
3 FAPO BARNISTORMER 7 (S) E Pliot 10-11-5
4 C000 BARNISTORMER 7 (S) E Pliot 10-11-5
5 0245 ANAUCALERUSTER 19 (B°) R Fahey 6-11-5
6 12 MOVAL 177 (G) W Nomp 7-11-5
7 3340 MURD 131 (B) D Lamb 7-11-5
8 53PO NEEDWOOD JOKER 25 J A Hards 5-11-5
10 0 RVE RIM 37 J AMSEY 5-11-5
11 - PAS 5-SPRING CALL 15 J Wade 5-11-5
11 - PAS 5-SPRING CALL 16 J Red 6-11-5
12 MOVAL 4 R Late 6-11-5
13 0000 RUBERS AW 43 Mrs k Lamb 4-10-12
Mrs 5 Lamb (7)
Have discussed a lamb 4-10-12
Mrs 5 Lamb (7)
Household Liver

9-4 knuckichuster, 3-1 Minner, 5-1 Spring Call, 6-1 Mulid 7-1 Noedwood Joker 8-1 Bowlands Country, 10-1 Blooming Spring, 12-1 others 3.45 A1 BANDAG CHASE

(Handicap: £3,793: 3m 3f) (6) 1 - PP2 MAJEC RAIN 7 (CD.F.G.S) D Edity 11-12-0 J Callaghan 2 - 2462 URGN V 29 (F.G.S) Mr. M Reveley 10-11-12 G Cahlli (5) 3 4021 GO SALTS 9 (CD.F.G.S) B Disson 10-17 (Fea Mar C Borner (3) 4 2119 GRAND SCHIERTS 5 (6F.F.G.) J Johnson 9-11-1 A S Smith 5 6-66 THE GREEN FOOL 12 (C.F.G.S) V Thompson 9-10-11 Mr. M Thompson Mr M Thompson J Burles 6 P554 SNOOK PORT 5 (G) D Lamb 9-10-4 2-1 Uton V 9-4 Go Sifty 4-1 Grand Scenery 9-2 Maps Rain, 10-1 Snook Point 16-1 The Green Fool

4.15 REXAM HANDICAP CHASE (£3,067: 2m 110yd) (5)

1 -414 JUST FRANKIE 25 (D.F.G.S) Mrs. M Revider 12-12-0 P Niver 2 2246 CLARES TWM S (C.D.F.G.S) J Wade 12-11-6 K. Jones 3 1540 TRESIDIDER 15 (C.D.F.G.S) M W Eastery 14-11-0 R Earnity 4 5014 FLASH OF RELAM 12 (V.D.F.G.S) P Monetain 10-11-0 A Dobblan 5 PS00 PRINCE YAZA 39 (C.F.G.S) J Curts 9-10-3 A S Smith 7-4 Flash Oli Asalmi, 5-2 Juni Franks 7-2 Tresidiler, 6-1 Prince Yaza, Claires Own.

4.45 LEVY BOARD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,385: 2m) (14) 10 PAPERISING 14 (G) M Barnes 4-11-1

10 PAPERSING 14 (G) M Barres 4-11-1
U1 SOUTHERN CROSS 26 (5) M W Eaderly 4-11-1
SCHLIF FACTOR 26 Mts. M Reveley 6-11-0
HÜLLYMOOR GUN Mts. 5 Widhamson 6-11-0
U HUSHABAB 25 S Konfewel 5-11-0
UNAND Denry. Smith 4-10-8
UNAND Denry. Smith 4-10-8
CHED RIGGLES 22 C Jackson 4-10-8
CHED RIGGLES 22 C Jackson 4-10-8
ONLY A SIOUX J Turne 4-10-9
O SELVER MINK 35 G Moore 4-10-8
O TSANGA 33 J Herbston 4-10-8
O WATEGATES WILLE 26 J Johnson 4-10-8
HURST FLYER F Mutagh 4-10-3
untern Cross 3-1 Rigner Bruiter 5-1 Chill Factor 6-1 Papersian 7-4 Southern Cross, 3-1 Blood Bruther 5-1 Chill Factor, 6-1 Paperising, 8-1 Fred Fuggles, 10-1 Salves Minor, 12-1 Durad, 16-1 others,

☐ Unbridled's Song, the Kentucky Derby favourite, runs in the Wood Memorial over

الفكذامن الأمهل

WOLVERHAMPTON

7.00 Nordic Hero. 7.30 Hannah's Usher. 8.00 Little long. 8.30 Sooty Tern. 9.00 Eurobox Boy. 9.30 Our Newmarket Correspondent: 7.30 HANNAH'S USHER (nap). 8.30 Golden Touch.

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

.00 TRESCOTT MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0, £2,709; 1m 4l) (8 runners) 1 CASHAPLENTY N Littmoders 9-0 I G McLaughtin 1
2 0-6 CHILLINGTON 5 W Brisbroune 9-0 A McCatone 4
3 60-6 JAMP THE LICHTS 19 5 Woods 9-0 W Woods 7
4 MORDIC HERO Jams 9-0 J Tatle 3
5 00-0 RICHARD HOUSE LAD 11 R Hollinshead 9-0 A Cultima 8
6 3-03 SEDBERCH 9 the M Riveley 9-0 A Cultima 8
7 0-0 THENDRITHERINILAYBOY 94 B Precise 9-0 M Address 5
8 0663 RADMARKE BRANDY 11 N Littmoders 8-9 M Feeting 8

7.30 PERTON CLAIMING STAKES (£2,070. 5f) (10) 1 Sa31 HAMMAH'S USRETI 14 (DD-G) C Marray 4-9.4 M Tebbus 5
2 5100 ALL APOLOGIES 23 (C.G) R Hotorshad 4-9.2 F Lynch (5) 1
3 04-4 SWAN AI WHALLEY 14 (D.F) M Wane 4-9-2 Dane O'Noti (5) 6
4 640-5 STANDOWN 168 (0) F.5 J Deny 3-9-1 P Roberts (5) 8
5 -040 DAANIERA 44 (B.D.G.5) P Howing 6-9-0 F Norton 6
6 -500 MOMARIC DANLER I IM Sazunder: 48-13 J F Egan 10
7 435- TEE-Bold 129 (D.F.G.) P Howing 6-9-0 J Deny 3
8 00-0 LITTLE SANDEUR 21 (B.D.F.G.) P Maken 7-8-9 A Cark 7
9 000- SUBRUSK 163 (C.G) W G M Torne 3-8-1 T Sprake 9
10 -544 DON'T TELL ANYONE 28 (CD.G) P Evast 3-8-1 S Sanders 4
15 Standers 7-2 Little Schaler 8-1 S Sanders 4
15 Standers 7-2 Little Schaler 8-1 S Sanders 4
15 Standers 7-2 Little Schaler 8-1 S Sanders 4
15 Standers 7-2 Little Schaler 8-1 Sanders 4-1 Standers 1-1 Stan

8.00 PORTOBELLO HANDICAP (£2,768: 6f) (7) 7 0005 LITTLE BBRR 14 (CD,F.G) P Erans 5-10-0. K Fallon 7 2 5023 EFRICADY 29 (CD,G) A Lavis 5-9-7. K Hoplons (7) 2 3 445- LADY SHERIFF 149 (F,G) R Hollenshoad 5-9-6. F Lymch (5) 4 30-2 DISCO BRY 11 (CB) P Erans 6-9-2. S Sanders 6 0 05-6 HONEY TRADER 14 J Bary 48-13 P Roberts (5) 1 6 0003 JON'S CHOICE 29 (CD,G) 8 Perce 8-7-12 D Window (3) 3 7 00-4 PIGHTER SOUADRON 38 (B,D,F,G,S) R Peacest 7-7-12 J Dunin 5

3-1 Standown, 7-2 Little Saboteur 5-1 Hannah's Usher, 6-1 All Apologies, 8-1 Den i Tell Arvone Tee-Erran, 10-1 others

3-1 Efficacy, 7-2 Disco Boy 9-2 Lady Sherifi 5-1 Little than Johns Choice 7-1 Fighter Squadron, 12-1 Honey Trader

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANERS: Mrs. M. Reveley, 11 winner; from 45 namers, 24.4%, Lord Hummgdon, 16 hom 73, 21.9%, S. Woods, 5 hom 28, 17.9%, P. Makin, 4 hom 24, 16.7%, A. Bauley, 32 from 207, 15.5%; J. Berry, 30 from 201, 15.1%.

JOCKEYS: W Woods, 13 winners from 62 miles, 21.0% J Tate, 9 from 57, 15 8%, T Sprake, 6 from 39, 15 4%, F Lynch, 7 from 55, 12 7%, D Whight, 22 ft ym 175, 12 6%, F Region 4 from 34, 11.6%

8.30 PLYVINE CATERING HANDICAP 1 3415 CHADLEIGH LANE 14 (CD.G) R Hollinshead 4-10-0 2 00-0 NAPOLEON STAR 21 (F) M Saunders 5-9-9 F Lynch (5) 9
2 00-4 LAST ROLMOUP 11 (6) C Toenton 4-9-7 D McGrown 11
4 0223 GOLDEN TOLUCH 21 (B) F NG CATLaghta 49-5 Dane OTHER (5) 10
5 5133 DAVID JAMES GIRL 12 (C.D.G.S) A Barley 4-9-0 Angels Gallimore (7) 4
6 00-0 RING THE CHIEF 12 M Usher 4-8-12 M Wigham 5
7 0-44 SOUTY TERM 17 (D.F.G.S.) J Bradley 9-8-12 S Drowne (3) 6
6 033 OUNZB MARTHM 35 (BF.C.D.G.) D Hayden Jones 8-8-11
9 065- ART TATIMALAL D D.G.G.G.C.T. 9 065- ART TATUM 14J (B.D.G.S) G McCourt 5-8-11 K Fation 2
10 646- GREAT TERN 282 N Babbage 4-8-9 J Dutins 1
13121 PEOPLE DIRECT 35 (D.G.I N McAuditle 3-8-9 J F Egan 3
12 409/ SUNGROVES BEST 24J P Ecules 9-7-10 N Afairrs 8 7-2 Godden Touch, 9-2 People Direct, 8-1 Chadleogh Lane, David James' Girl, 7-1 Last Roundup, 10-1 Claiman Martin, 16-1 others 9.00 PEVERIL INTERIORS SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0: £2.070: 1m 11 79yd) (11) 3-1 Triantia, Eurobox Boy, 6-1 La Hoye Saissie, Loch Style, 10-1 Seried Amoret. 12-1 Shiplas Dream, 14-1 other;

9.30 BUSHBURY HANDICAP (£2,070, 2m 46yd) (9) 1 100; CALL MY GLEST 15J (S) R Peacock 6-10-0 ... R Handin (5) 8
2 /30- TWICE THE GROUM /J (F.6) R Lee 6-10-0 ... O Peac (3) 1
3 -34 NICK THE BISCUIT 66 (B) R Philips 5-10-0 ... A Clark 3
4 -450 IDTA 26 (GD.F.G.S) JL Hame 7-9-7 ... S Sanders 4
5 0420 DIRHAMA / R Sandyson 5-9-3 ... S Growne (3) 7
6 146/ SHE KNEW THE RULES JJ (D.P) F Jordan 6-8-10
7 -004 JIST 11930 12 / 65 May D 5-4-8 8
7 -004 JIST 11930 12 / 65 May D 5-4-8 8 7 - 004 JUST LUCKY 12 (G) Mrs P Sty 4-8-8. J Tate 5 8 6332 SWORDKING 4 (C.F.C.S) J L Harris 7-8-8. J Duton 9 9 00-5 FLASHMAN 91 (D.F.G) B Universitys 6-8-6. T Sprake 2 3-1 Durtain, 7-2 Sweeding, 5-1 Twice The Groom 6-1 Call My Guest, 7-1 Nickage. The Biscuit, 8-1 She knew the Rules, Flashman 10-1 others.

Dettori's Hong Kong quest

FRANKIE DETTORI will partner the Saced bin Suroor-trained Overbury in the 14-runner Queen Elizabeth II Cup over 14 miles at Sha Tin in Hong Kong tomorrow. Paul Eddery will ride the Erwan Charpy-trained Learmont The two Dubai runners are attempting to emulate last year's winner Red Bishop, who was trained at Dubai's all-conquering Al Quoz was trained at Duoat 5 att-conquering -

3 4 4 24



Metronome pacemaker device signals start of training revolution

Stroke of genius gives Briton head start for Atlanta

Prized among the posses-sions that Paul Palmer, the swimmer, packed this morning before leaving Lincoln for Atlanta is the training partner from heaven; a prototype pacemaker for the healthy, a British invention that is said to bleep to a winning rhythm and that may become as familiar a friend to joggers and cyclists the world over as the personal stereo.

None in Great Britain can match the 400 metres freestyle pace of Palmer, 21, a European silver medal-winner and one of Britain's best medal prospects in the Olympic pool in July. In the absence of company, Palmer, the former European junior champion, has been happy to play guinea pig for the Electronic Programmable Training Device. working title that Patrick Miley, the inventor, a former Army captain who flies helicopters to and from North Sea oil rigs, is keen to replace with a more marketable name.

The micro-computer allows Ian Turner, Palmer's coach, to act as pilot on the poolside. The hand-held unit, not unlike a television remote controller, pre-programmes a sound unit that is attached to the swimmer's head and emits bleeps of different frequencies to set the pace at which Palmer must rotate his arms, while telling him when he should have reached his turn in order to hit his target.

The gadgetry brings to an end the long era of the pace



Craig Lord takes a look at an invention designed to speed improvement of sportsmen

cannot hear a coach's instructions when in water and lose time and rhythm by looking up at clocks, the device is

Miley, 34, a former swimmer and triathlete, started out on the path to his creation by fitting a digital watch to the side of his swimming goggles. in the fashion of a mad inventor: but his involvement with the Garioch club, near Inverurie, gave him a craving for control of the device not as swimmer but as coach. After consulting Nick Norman, an engineer friend, the programmable device was born.

The simple inventions are often the best, and the unit attracted the attention of the Grampian Enterprise Trust. which gave technical support to Miley. The device is now protected by patent.

for Palmer, the pacemaker brings home the reality of pain. "I train alone and used to swim at my own pace in races," he said, "but, at this level [world class]. I have to be able to go out in races with the best - the pacemaker is teaching me what that feels

Indeed, Turner, who met Miley when the two took their senior coach's examinations

psychological benefit apparent in the machine, as auto-sug-gestion comes into play. Turner, who has taken a sixmonth sabbatical from his job as a physical education teacher to tutor his charge, set Palmer, for example, eight 400-metre freestyle swims. going every 4min 45sec. Palmer clocked every one in 4min 05sec. each time within a 0.1sec of the pace that the machine had set. "It was

unnerving," Turner said. In training in Atlanta, Palmer will be asked to swim 30 sequential sets of 100 metres. each one in 58sec, the time in which Johnny Weissmuller, in the 1920s, and Dawn Fraser, in the 1960s, held the world record. It is also the sort of pace that Kieren Perkins, of Australia, will set in defence of his 1,500 metres title. Palmer hopes to be alongside Perkins in that final.

Meanwhile, Miley, encouraged by the response of Nick Gillingham, who has also been using a prototype, has engaged a business adviser, John Deffenbaugh, to promote the product.

An agreement has been signed with the Finnish national team to test the device. but Miley said: "It would be nice to see the British team

ber-trained Bet With Baker

and Bill Smith's Qannaas.

Curling reluctantly decided

yesterday to delay her come-

(200)
TOUSDRINGW'S MEETINGS: Jedforest,
Frank Haugh, Wolf Kelbor (200) Middleon,
Whowel-on-health, Bri SW Maton (100)
Pytobley, Guissonough 10m NW Northampton (200)

7-2 English Breater, 5-1 Kedesand, 6-1 Astronate, 8-1 Aspir Splast, Artic Country, Sci. Freedom, 10-1 others.

7-2 Smatherens, Red Leo. 5-1 Algobe Tweet, 6-1 Man Or Wil. 10-1 Spee Littlewig, 12-1 Smarter Chester, 14-1 others.

6 (12) -146 ALLEZ CYRANIO 17 (C.BF.F.G.S) M Bed 5-8-11 M Fembre 92 (10) -600 REVERANIO THICKNESS 19 (BF.G.S) S Williams 5-8-11 R Membre 10

7 (10) -600 REVERAND THICKNESS 19 (BF.A.S) S Waltern 5-8-11
8 1131 655- ROLDE LA MERI 177 (D.G.) J Alechest 5-8-11 S Whitenest
9 18 620- COURTING NEWMARKET 259 (F.G.) M Bedougs 8-8-7
R Flampa (7) 74
10 (14) /0/ CYCLONE 189J B Millman 5-8-7 S Drosone (3) —
11 (3) 42/ SBMPLY A SEQUEL 240 C Jackson 5-9-7 A McColone
12 (2) 4894 (F FATTOR 47 (S) P Mayor Junes 4-8-5... A Mackey 95
13 (1) 5-4 MELDOY WHEEL 12 (BF) A Risk 4-8-2... J Opann 89
14 (9) (7) LIZAPET 9 (V) P Protested 4-8-8... As Meldows 70
14 (9) (7) LIZAPET 9 (V) P Protested 4-8-8... As Meldows 70
15 Televist 4-2 (Discher 4-1) County (8)

3-1 Zatomet, 9-2 () Factor, 5-1 Species's Revenige, 8-1 Revesand Truckness, and needs in 18-1 Allies Cyrano, 12-1 Mallody Wheel 14-1 others.

5.35 KINETON HANDICAP

5.05 DUNSMORE CLAIMING STAKES

4.30 OLD MILVERTON MAIDEN STAKES

3.50 MARTON HANDICAP

(£5,540: 1m 6(194yd) (12)



Palmer's pace is set by the emitter placed at the side of his head. Photograph: Michael Powell

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER 2.00 Selatan. 2.35 Evangelica. 3.05 Act The Wag. 3.35 Abbey Street. 4.05 Hold Your Ranks. 4.40 James The First. 5.15 Three Farthings.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

back. However, although the champion is down, it would be unwise to count her out.	2.00 ERE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HUROLE (£2,665, 2m 6f) (17 numers)
TODAY'S MEETENSS: Bosser with	1 - PTO PONCEFICE 31 (M.S.S) (1 P.C) 5 *** 11
Whatian Chase 4 vasin Elant Smith	5550 LADION 7 (CO.F.G.S) C MICHIEL 8-10-13. D Salter
חבילו אפני בי ייביין אינייינים ואפני בי אפני	4 2220 BALLYEA BOY 44 Diluteron 6-16-11 R Johnson
130 Brocklesby, Brocklesov, Park, 10m W	E → 11 JCMAL MACE IS (R.S) R.O Selvico 7:12-12 S Curran
Gorgety C. Dir Cheshae, Apparan 3m	5 1421 SELATAR 24 (S) D Gerth/b ∸14-3 D Forti
SE Tartor ev 2001, Glamangen, St. Hiler,	7 SELE SHERREFRANK 28 (St. Vis. L. Walter T. 19-7 G. Hogan
2m SE Cover age 2 ∰ Lighter, 5 7st ≥.	E PO-P SZOWRED DEF 24 F.S) W Tardon Object 7-10-7 D Wideh
4m NE Lucos i2 (Or Old Surrey &	9 -363 COUNTRY STORE 17 (D.S) A done 7-10-5 L Aspel
Burstow, Parishura, 3m S.V. or Your, 2001	: C 5751 SPRING GRASS 19 (D.S) 2 2 21 8 - C 2 T Dascombe
Pontran, Sactur, Gras, 4th NA	1: 0556 RLY BY NORTH 21 (C.S) 0 (405) (25: 8-10-1 X AZPURE (7)
Windows (200) Puckeridge, Hoseheath,	12 556P STICKY MICREY 4: (3 5) 3 P 2: 5-10-1
3m W Haver 1 (200) Tetrota urten, 3m	15 2214 TOUGH SILVES 7 (S) H Aboreto E-10-0 Souther Mitchell
SE Laureston (200) West Somerset	14 5265 ROBERO 57 (4) Ltd J Printer 5-10-0
Vale, Cothe store, 2m NE Eishops Lydeard	15 8014 MARKE SOCIETY 24 (CD.S) A NEWSTRICK 8-10-0 8 Featon
(2.90)	16 AFFO ROSSANS GLER SS (F) SI WARROOM 9-10-0 P Crowley (3)
TOMORROW'S MEETINGS: Jedicrest,	17 0305 EU-TADUL 7 (B) R Balar 4-10-0
Frians Hauph, Wolfke'so (200), Middleton , H	

5-1 June! Man, 6-1 Lanctimone, 7-1 Spring Crass, Shentimon, 8-1 Selatan, County State, 10-1 Marine Society, 12-1 others. 2.35 sapphire a Diamond novices chase (53.250: 3m 2i 110yd) (16)

(20,000:0:11 21 7:0)4) (.0)
1 1P41 HAE'S WAY 17 (S) J Ethants 6-11-10 R Johnson
2 2314 PRICE'S HILL 25 (D.S) K Bailey 9-11-10 P Carl
3 SUBU CASTLE COURT 12 (B.S) N Gazeles 8-11-3 A Thor
4 DIZE MAESTRO PAUL 24 (F.E.S) J Cotoro 18-11-3 Mar P O'Keets
5 -685 ASCOT LAD 37 (F,G) 8 De Haan 11-10-10 JR Kawa
5 OF BATTLE LORD CISTO 56 R Buckler 9-10-10
7 .20 CALL ME CITIZEN 10 (F.G) R Curts 10-10-10 D M
8 -PDD CHANCE DE LA VIE 28 Max C Horles 7-10-10 T Dascomb
9 PPFP CORACO 22 (B.S) R Phillips 9-10-10 S Cr
10 JPP DUKE OF ABSON 14 (B.S) K Betton 12-10-10 R D
11 3-2F MOURT SERRATH 40 (BF) C Egenon 8-10-10 J A McC-
12 43 OVER THE WREKIN 21 I Needham 9-10-10 G Hogan
13 36FP SMPSON 30 (F.S.S) J ON 11-10-10
14 104R ST VILLE 7 (6.5) R Buckler 10-10-10 B Pc
15 PPP5 EVANGELICA 5 (5) M Proe 6-10-5 J Li
16 13/P PRECIS 23 (S) 0 Center 8-10-5 Mer 1 Dece
3-1 Price's HILL 4-1 Maestro Paul, 6-1 Mount Serrato, Castle Court, 10-1 H
Way, One The Wholes 14-1 Evangelica, 20-1 others.

3.05 PANTO PRINCE HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,854: 201 of 110yu) (10)
1 F-64 SAFFAAH 5 (G.S) S Knopts 9-11-10 S Burmu
2 1144 MESTER ODDY 12 (C,G.S) J King 10-11-9 D Watsh (
3 0440 BOLD CHOICE 16 (B.F.G.S) R Frost 10-11-1 J Fro
4 0212 BEAU BABILLARD 5 (B.G.S) F Michalls 9-10-13 G Hogan
5 11FP PREEMKA GERL 47 (CD.OF.F.G.S) M. Piges 7-10-13 J. Low
6 1P35 ACT THE WAG 15 (F.G) A Turnell ?-10-11
7 6004 RICHVILLE 18 (D.F.G.S) K Badey 10-10-8 R Johnson (
8 PG-F ABBOTSHAM 17 (C.F.G.S) 0 Cater 11-10-6 B Pos
9 1112 ALLO GEORGE 7 (C,B,S) A Newcombs 10-10-3 A Thornt
10 3044 RAMBOW CASTLE 19 (8) J Griend 9-10-2 L Aspet
11 0046 ASK THE GOVERNOR 11 (BF.F.G.S) 6 Balaing 10-10-2
B Chiffs
12 LIOUR LLICKY AGAIN 22 (D.F.G) C Poptem 9-10-0. T Descombe (
13 -OFF EMBLEY BOOTY 7 (S) J NAUTANS 8-10-0
7-2 Alio George, 9-2 Beau Babiliard, 5-7 Act The Wag, 6-1 Misser Diddy, 7 Presnika Girl, 8-7 Rambow Castle, 10-1 Richwille, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 3 10 Avro Anson. Newton Abbot: 2:35 Castle Court, Duke Of Abson: Warwick: 4:30 Rowane 5:05 Indonsesian, Lisspet, 5:35 Ketabi, Wolver-hampton: 9:00 Fortiando, 9:30 Nick The Biscut

3.35 NEWTON ABBOT RACECOURSE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-O. £6,478: 2m 1f) (10) 7-2 Abbry Szeet, 4-1 Yubraisz 5-1 Askung, 6-1 Hangton 7-1 Childing Mood 8-1 Portscatto, Danus The Great, 10-1 others.

4.05 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE

(£3,8	322 2	im 10 (8)
1234567	4423 6210 -611 -29- 0945	HOLD YOUR RAMES 43 (CO.S) R Frod 9-11-1 Frod MARRIS 19 (D.S.) J Gifted 6-10-6
	oski Eq	DOC'S COAT 40 (C.O.F.E.S) C Wildman 11-10-0 . B Power cress, 11-4 Hold from Paries 3-1 Fourth in Line, 5-1 Manue 7-1 Supreme Master, 10-1 others

4.4U FLORIDA HANDICAP CHASE (£3.420: 2m 110vd) (9)		
(23,420, 216 (10)0) (3)		
 207 E0000 FOR A LAUGH 758 (0.6.5) C Ham 12-12-0 S Burrough 		
2 U-58 JAMES THE FIRST 22 (CD.F.G.S) P Michalt: 8-12-0 Guy Lews (3)		
3 4241 DEAR DO 7 (D.F.G.S.) N Henderson 9-11-2 J R Kavanach		
4 -PPF BENJAMEN LANCASTER 31 (C.D.G.S) M Guin 12-10-13		
M Gratians (7)		
5 FF22 AAL EL AAL 16 (6.5) P Hotos 9-10-8		
6 U-6F DAM DE LYON 29 (S) C Popham 8-18-0 A Thornton		
7 GFP5 CASPIAN BELUGA 16 5 knoght 8-10-0 G Updom		
8 4342 EVENING RAIN 5 (CD.F.G.S.) R Hodges 10-10-0 T Dascombe (3)		
9 2044 SEASAMACAMPLE 5 (S) R Buckles 9-10-0 G Supple (7)		
7-4 James The First 9-4 Apr El Ael, 4-1 Dear Oo 6-1 Dan De Lyon 7-1 Good For A Laugh, 8-1 Evening Rain, 10-1 others,		
- 4 -		

5.75 AFTERTHOUGHT INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,509: 2m 1f) (16)

ı	į	Ωŧ	ROYAL EVENT 45 (S) D GandoNo 5-11-7 D Forti (
ı	3	240	THREE FARTHWAS 31 (S) J Old 6-11-7
i		410	
i	4	_!	EVER BLESSED 59 (S) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-1 A Bates (
i	5	13	EDGEMOOR PRINCE 40 P Hobbs 5-11-0 G Tormey (
I	ĺ	2	MER BOUANGLES 15 K Bader 5-11-0 A Thornto
l	7	D	SPLINT 84 J 06/ 6-11-0 L. Harve
ı	ā	8	STRONG TEL 114 M Page 6-11-0
1	9	3	THE LAND AGENT 84 J Maylins 5-11-0,
i	10	222	MAYLIN MAGIC 29 (BF) M McCorrack 5-10-9. R Johnson C
ı	ii	چ	ANDONLIGHTER 58 C Jackson 6-10-9 W Humphrey
ı			
ı	12	Ų	TWOGER'S CLISS 31 A Junes 5-10-9 L Aspell (
i	13	Đ	ROCK ON HONEY 59 Miss G kelleway 4-10-8 P Carbon
1	14	_0	SOL MUSIC 35 S Earlo 4-10-8 D Watsh (5
ı	15	30	ADEPT FLYER 35 J King 4-10-3 J R Kavanag
١	15	G	MADAM POLLY 49 R Alicon 4-10-3 B Power
ı	6.46-	- Disa-	ed, 3-1 Johany-K. 5-1 Royal Event. 6-1 Mr Bojangles, 10-1 Thre
ı	7-10-		Carl Carlotte (1.) a superior recent for the contraction of the contra
ı	ranning	2 118	Land Agent, 12-1 others.
i			
Į			COURSE SPECIALISTS
ı	L		CORDSE OF ECIMENS 19
١	No.		ABBOT: Trainers: R Phillips, 3 winners from 3 numers,
1	I MES	T I US	MODOL: HORISTS W. LIBINGS A MAINS 3 AND S TRANSS

100 0%: N Henderson, 5 from 14, 35 7%, D Naciolson, 6 from 17, 35 3%; R O'Sallwan, 10 from 31, 32 3%, P Hapts, 46 from 147, 37 3%. Jockeys: R Messy 3 winners from 7 ndes, 42 9%, D J Burchell, 5 from 18, 27 1%; G Tomey, 4 from 15, 26 7%, A Thomson, 8 from 40, 20 0%, B Chillott, 9 from 48, 18.8%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Nottingham

NOTTING NATM
Going: good, good to soft in places
2.00 (1m 54yd) 1, Sister Act (7 Oufne, 9-2);
2, Royal Repport (14-1); 3, Dezzing Sterr
(6-5 fav), 14 ran, NRT Mobile King, 41, 344 M
Channon: Toter 66,60, 52-10, 52-10, 51-10.
DF 546.50, Trio 542-10 CSF: 566.03
Bought in 4,000 gris.
2,30 (61 15yd) 1, Parthana (7 Oufnin, 7-4 fav),
2, Polish Saga (20-1), 3, Mytonye (7-1), 4,
Miethan Returb (8-1), 17 an NRT Wingdrut,
3, 151, W Janes, Tote: 52-90, 52-10, 53-40,
52-20, 52-20 DF: 581,99 Trio: 5561-80
CSF: 543-12 Tricash: 5223-32
3,00 (61 13yd) 1, Superior Premium (A

3.00 (51 13yd) 1, Superior Premium (A Cuffane, 4-1 (14a); 2, Castle House (11-2); 3, Cavtar And Candy (6-1) Scanots 4-1 (1-1a); 10 ran 5(, 3); R Fahey, Tote: 05.00; 11.30, 11.50, (22.20) CF: 13.90, Tro: 222.20 CSF: 128 60.

S.30 (Im 54yd) 1, Clever Cliche (Pat. Eddery, 1-2 fau): 2, Hal's Pai (9-4), 3, Sandy Ploss (12-1), 16 ran, NR: Halebid, Siky Smooth, Hd, 61 H Cecil Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.60, £2.40, DF, £2.40 Trio: £6.30 (SF: £3.47.

Going: good to firm

Geing: good to firm
2.20 (5f) 1. Contravene (J Carroll, 8-4 fav).
2. Small Risk, (13-8); 3. Abstone Queen (8-11, 8 ran 1 %1, 1 %1. J Berry Tote 52,30. 21:30, 51:50. DF. 21:90. CSF. 54:50. No bid.
2.50 (2m 35yd) 1. Sudden Spin (J Fanning, 15-2); 2. Anan Spirit (9-2 fav); 3. Hulbarik, (8-1); 4. Mondagon (10-1); 18 ran 1 %1, 1 ¼1 J Notron Tote: 58:60, 51:60. 61:50. 52:20, 52:70. DF. 521:30. Tino: 52:53:50 CSF: 546:78. Tincast 52:80:49. 3.20 (5f) 1. Total Aloci (M Hills, 9-4); 2. Dwine Miss.-P (10-1); 3. Bowlers Boy (25-1). Loose Talk 8-11 fav 10 ran 1 %1, 41. W Haggas, Tote: 53:10; 51:10, 52:80, 54:20. DF. 52:10. Tino: 52:50. SSF: 527:76. 3.50 (fm tif 207yd) 1. Simply Kelie (D R McCable, 2-1); 2. Miss Finviera (4-7 fav); 3. Silver Wing (6-1); 3. ran 8t, %1 D Loder. Tote: 52:60 DF: 51:10 CSF: 53:52. 4.20 (fm ti 207yd) 1, Komreyev Dancer (J Carroll, 11-2); 2. Carrito Bogarite (5-2); 3. Hazard A Guess (9-1 fav), 9-ran 1 %1. 41. M. Balley. Tote: 58:70; £1:50, £1:50. E1:50. DF. 537:27. 4.50 (7f 100yd) 1, Primo Lara (9 Hind, 6-1, Thunderer's nac); 2, Dances With Hooves (4-1 fi-44); 3. Svacarore (Jodge 6-2): 4.

Placepot: £56.50. Quadpot: £14.20.

Brighton Ascot today). 2.10 (5/159/d) 1. Masterstroke (8 Doyle, 4 Placeport £107.30. Quadpot: £24.40. 6 favi: 2, Royal Emblem (8-1). 3. Placepot: £191.70. Quadpot: £26.90.

2.40 (5/213yd) 1, Agyra (5 Sanders, 9-1) 2, Beitsys Surtsel (25-1), 3, Apolio Red (8-1) Shaaris Son 10-11 fav 10 ran 2, 13-1, 6 O'Sultivan, Toter 25-50, 51-90, C3-60, 5220 DF, 584-50 Trio £159,00, CSF: 2172 07 3.10 (5) 213yd) 1, Bashiul Brave (R Cochrane, 8-1); 2, Speedy Classic (6-1); 3, Talahhus (16-1) Mol Canard 4-1 fav. 13 ran, NR Double Mat, Hd, hd J Payne, Tote: £9.40; £2.70, £3.00, £2.70 DF, £134 50, Tric: £314.40 (part won, pool of £177 18 carned forward to 3.40 at Ascot today) £25°; £54.11 Tncast £726.98. 3.40 (6) 209yd) 1, Star Talent (7) Cochrane, 10-1). 2, Apoliono (3-1); 3, Jo Macimus (12-1), Chempagne Grandy 2-1 fev 9 ran. 11, 11, Miss G Kelleway Tote. \$9.00; £1.70, £1.60. DF £19.00. Tho: £63 10. CSF: £29.88 4.10 (1m 1/209yd) 1, Spišlo (J Reid, 1-3 (av); 2, Sunley Secure (11-2); 3, isstoff (11-1) 6 ran 111, hd L Cumani Tota £1.60; £1.10, £2.00. DF £2.20 CSF. £2 96 4.40 (Im 3f 196kvi) 1, Uncharted Waters (G Duffield, 20-1); 2, Aptar (9-1); 3, Courbani (7-1), 4, Peradise Waters (5-1), Double Rush 9-2, I-fav. 16 ran, NR. Marovetta, Sel-Em-Alighri, 14, 2-6 C Cyser. Tote £15-40; £1-30, £2-80, £2-10, £1-70. DF £58-10. Ther £255-90. CSF; £185-26. Tricest: £1,226-79. 5.10 (7f 214yd) 1, Autumn Cover (D Hemson, 5-1 (I-lav); 2, College Night (15-2); 3, Pinkerion Polka (25-1), Mr Rough 5-1 (I-lav, 15 ran. Shd, 31 R Plower Tore C7-40; (25-0), 5-50, (3-40 DF £41 00 Into: £547.30. CSF. £43.89 Tricast £836.48.

Nighbrigate Song (4-1), 7 ran NR: Salty Behaviour, 2l, sh hd. B Meshan, Tote, £1 60; £1.10, £3 30. DF £7.70, CSF: £8.05

SPORT IN BRIEF

Yates handed leading role

SEAN YATES, who has spent most of his 15 years as a professional cyclist chasing down attacks for his team leaders, will be elevated to senior status in the 263-kilometre Centenary Classic from Paris to Roubaix tomorrow (Peter Bryan writes). In the past three years. Yates has turned in consistently high placings eighth in 1993, fifth in 1994, and eleventh last year.

Yates, 35, has decided to retire later this year and is determined to produce a best-ever performance tomorrow when his Motorola squad will try to nurse him through to a winning position. The event warrants its sobriquet "Hell of the North" and is raced on secondary roads and farm tracks, broken throughout the event by 22 bone-shaking zones of cobbles left undisturbed by the French authorities to help to retain some of the original character of the race. The event, the third of 11 World Cup races this season, has drawn the top three finishers last year — Franco Ballerini (Italy), Andrei Tchmil (Ukraine) and Johan Museenw (Belgium).

Haining leads off

ROWING: Peter Haining, the world lightweight champion, will lead off 440 competitors in the Scullers Head from Mortlake to Putney today. Haining, the winner in 1993 and 1994, will find his main opposition coming from Guy Pooley, the winner in 1992. Pooley, starting second, is a rival to Haining for the sculls selection in the Great Britain team for the Olympic Games in Atlanta. Niall O'Toole, who won the event last year, is not defending his title.

Cuthbert sails in

SAILING: Saily Cuthbert is on course for a record fourth youth world championship in the girls' two-handed dinghy class, after winning the Holt/RYA youth national championship for the fourth successive year. Cuthbert, 18, of Stansted, Essex, who sails with her twin sister, Jessie, was lying second until the eighth and final race at Warsash yesterday when they overhauled Gillian Hooton and Jennifer Heeley, of Largs, to take the title.

Perfect score despite fire

RIFLE SHOOTING: The Great Britain rifle team competing in Trinidad yesterday found the range ablaze over to one side while they were shooting. However, the small forest fire did not interrupt the competitions. Larry Orpen-Smellie, a retired Parachute Regiment Lieutenant-Colonel, made a perfect score of 50 with every shot in the bullseye at 500 yards, while the fire burned near the 600yard point. It was the only perfect score of the day.

Howey on her own

JUDO: Kate Howey will buck a trend today by competing in the British Open at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. The event will feature 538 participants from 14 countries, but Howey is the only member of Great Britain's national team who will be there. Howey felt that she needed to take part in an international competition before the European championships next month. Her team-mates are already preparing for that event in Japan.

Raphael steps forward

HOCKEY: Scotland captured the home countries universities men's championship at Swansea for the first time yesterday, with a helping hand from a 19-year-old Irishman. Mark Raphael, a student at Edinburgh, scored the winning goal in their 2-1 defeat of his native Northern Ireland to enable the Scots to go through their three-match programme with maximum points. The women's tournament was won by England for the second successive year.

Hampstead challenge

LACROSSE: Kenton are favourites to take their fourth successive flags title when they play Hampstead in the South of England Flags final at Motspur Park this afternoon. Kenton have beaten Hampstead twice this season in the league. For Hampstead, it is their first flags final since 1991, when they ended a run of four successive victories. They are led by Chris Bland, one of the best midfield players in the country.

2 for 1 RPO concert tickets

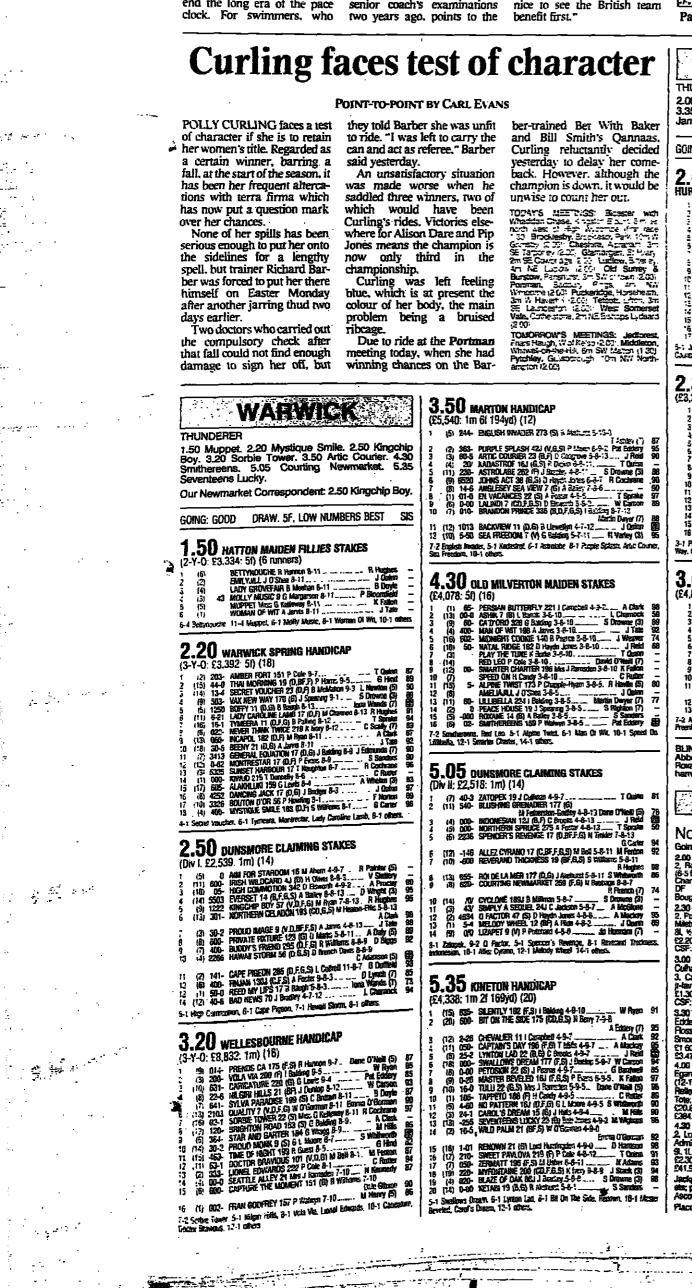
Buy one full price concert ticket and get another of equal value - FREE



The Times, in association with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, offers you a free ticket to one of the RPO's inaugural concerts at the Royal Albert Hall on either May 12 or May 21. Buy one ticket and you get another of equal value to the same concert FREE. The concerts will be conducted by Orwain Arwel

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Cultured ambassador with vision to pass anything but the buck

Wilkins as your hero in the early 1980s. Bryan Robson worshippers boxed you in on every side at Old Trafford, pounding away at you with the same relentlessness as their idol's surg-ing runs and thumping headers, ridiculing Wilkins's more cerebral approach, ignoring his vision, his elegance and his touch, and grinding you down by groaning every time that he played a ball square.

Pretty soon, someone had nicknamed him "The Crab", because he went sideways so often, and Tommy Docherty, who made a career out of being an ex-Manchester United manager. jumped on the bandwagon and slapped on a bit of fresh paint. "He salapped on a bit of trest path. The can't run, he can't tackle and he can't head the ball." Docherty said. "How can people call him a world-class player? The only time he goes forward is to toss the coin."

The angst reached its apogee has in 1002 when Wilking what.

late in 1982, when Wilkins shattered his cheekbone in the twelfth minute of a 2-2 Milk Cup draw between United and Bournemouth at Dean Court. By the time that he was fit again, he had lost the captaincy of club and country to Robson, and found Remi Moses occupying his central midfield role at Old Trafford. It took him a long time to fight his way back in.

Those days seem a long, long way away now, as Ray Wilkins. player-manager of Queens Park Rangers, prepares for the game against Coventry City, his relegation rivals, at Highfield Road today that could seal his club's demotion to the Endsleigh Insurance League or secure their place in the FA Carling Premiership. They seem distant, those days, and yet as Wilkins squares up to adversity again, the memories are particularly pertinent.

In the interim, you see, the period between leaving United for AC Milan in a £1.5 million deal in 1984 and the time, earlier this season, when things started to go wrong at Loftus Road, Wilkins came steadily back into fashion. His label suddenly changed from 'The Crab" to "cultured midfield player", a refreshing change from the archetypal up-and-at-'ent

brawler so beloved of the English bottle even when things were no

Things went well in Italy and, later, in Glasgow with Rangers, and, by the time that he started playing for Queens Park Rangers, in 1989, he was being held up as a paragon of footballing virtue. So, by the time that he became manager at Loftus Road, 18 months ago, people had got used to seeing Wilkins as a gentle man easing along on the crest of his

He was unfailingly courteous and polite, an articulate, pithy, television pundit, part of Terry Venables's England revolution as coach to the under-21 team, a credit to the game in every way. They got used to this image, they saw the results going badly at Queens Park Rangers and said that he was

'A lot of people who have no affinity with Queens Park Rangers will be rooting for them this afternoon'

just "too nice" to succeed as a manager. They forgot about those days at Manchester United.

Ron Atkinson has not forgotten. though. He inherited Wilkins when he took over at Old Trafford in 1981 and fate has hurled them back together. Atkinson, who denies that it was he who dubbed Wilkins "The Crab", is the Coventry manager. His voice sounded tight with tension on the telephone yesterday. He knows that the man who was once his captain and is now his opponent is no soft touch.

The first game I was in charge at United, we were playing Not-tingham Forest," he said. "The lad did not have the best of games that day but he went up in my estimation. Things weren't coming off for him and the fans started to give him a bit of a dig, but he kept looking for the ball more and more and more.

"The less effective he was, the more he wanted the ball. He had going well. He has got a hard side to him. If somebody does not do something he wants them to. I would imagine they would find out about it fairly quickly."
Wilkins has adopted the same

approach as a manager. The worse things have got, the more he has stood up and beckoned the blame towards himself. He has admitted that he has made bad buys with the £6 million from the sale of Les Ferdinand. Ned Zelic and Simon Osborn have come and gone without making an impression, Mark Hateley has been dogged by injury. Wilkins himself has played in the past two games and looked a class above the rest. but he draws the line at passing

Even when his team were denied two vital extra points last month when Eric Cantona scored an equaliser for United deep into injury time at Loftus Road, Wil-kins refused to gripe. He entered the press room afterwards all smiles, where many managers would not have turned up at all, answered all the questions with good humour and left.

Through it all, though, he has never doubted his own ability. "I have got this thing," he said yesterday, "that, if you once start doubting yourself, there are so many people out there who are going to doubt you anyway that you will not have a prayer. I firmly believe in what I have done and that belief has been very important to me. Even in the bad times, you learn something from them and from the people around you." Wilkins, who will be 40 in

September, began his career at Chelsea in 1973, labouring under the nickname, Butch, which was bestowed on him by his father, also a professional footballer. Butch Wilkins was 18 when Chelsea made him their youngest-ever captain and Don Revie took him on an England tour of South America, where he played along-side men like Mick Channon. United paid £825,000 for him in

1979. He scored a spectacular goal in the 2-2 FA Cup Final draw with Brighton and Hove Albion in 1983 and then, as all Manchester feared



that Robson would leave for Italy, Wilkins was sold instead. AC Milan paid £1.5 million for him. making him the most expensive English player to move abroad. The Mexico World Cup in 1986

was a truncated failure. Four minutes after Robson had been led away from the group game against Morocco in Monterey with a dislocated shoulder, Wilkins was sent off for throwing the ball at the referee, the first time an England

player had been dismissed in a World Cup finals match. He left AC Milan in 1987 and

after a brief spell at Paris Saint-Germain, arrived in Scotland to join Rangers before returning to England. Italy had honed his passing skills even more, made his awareness even greater and, at last, he was accorded the respect that he deserved. His critics melted quietly into the background and everyone was an admirer.

"It is strange the way things have turned," Wilkins said. "I used to get criticised for playing square balls and yet you watch games like Liverpool and Newcastle the other night, and people are talking about how they strung 25 passes together before this goal or that goal. Now 15 of those will have gone sideways and backwards, but they have kept the ball and that has always been my

He must have been doing something right. He won 84 caps for England (only five men have won more since the Second World War) and was appointed MBE. He is respected by press, public and peers alike. A lot of people who have absolutely no affinity with Queens Park Rangers will be rooting for them this afternoon. It is still hard having Williams as a is still hard having Wilkins as a hero, but he is now just as worthy of our admiration as ever he was.

THE TIMES MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP THIS WEEKEND

Long faces at Stamford Bindge, where Chelses have not won for more than two months, and even longer faces at Elland Road, where Howard Wilkinson is haringing on to his job, and sanity, by the width of a brain cell, something which many Leeds supporters do not appear to possess in abundance. Public vilification is part of any football environment, but Wilko's treatment seems particularly harsh, even if he should perhaps lighten up a shade. Probably more doom and gloom at the Bridge today. Woe, woe ... LAST SEASON: Cheisea 0 Leeds United 3. TEN-YEAR RECORD: --, --, --, 1-0, --, 1-2, 0-1, 1-0, 1-1, 0-3.

CHELSEA (horn): K Hitchcock, M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers, D Petrescu, D Wise, R Gulfit, J Spencer, S Minto, M Hughes, P Furfong, C Burley, E Johnsen, G Peacock, D Kharine, LEEDS UNITED (from): J Lukks, L Radebe, D Wetherall, C Palmer, G Kelfy, A Gray, J Blurnt, G McAllister, G Speed, B Deene, T Brolin, I Harte, N Worthington, J Pemberton, M Jackson, M Beeney.

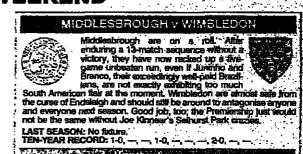


COVENTRY CTY (from): S Ogizovic, A Pickering, M Hall, L Deish, R Shaw, D Rennie, P Williams, K Richardson, P Teifer, W Boland, E Jess, D Dublin, N Whelen, P Ndlovu, J Salako, G Strachan, J Filan, QUEENS PARK RANGERS (from): J Sonumer, D Bardsley, S Yates, A McDonald, R Brevett, A Impey, I Holloway, T Sindair, S Barker, K Gallen, D Dichio, G Goodridge, M Brazier, M Hateley, A Roberts.

City have peaked to perfection, only one win in ten matches, as the relegation dogsight reaches a frenzy. The voice of Alan Ball, beleaguered City boss, seems to be rising an octave a minute, upsetting most of the local canine population, and the smugness from neighbouring Old Trafford is atmost unbearable. Wednesday plod on, having narrowly averted the danger, and could prove easy pickings were not City so clueless. At least David Pleat, win or lose, usually manages to retain a sensible, dignified stance.

LAST SEASON: Manchester City 3 Sheffield Wednesday 2. TEN-YEAR RECORD: 1-3, 1-0, —, —, 2-1, —, 0-1, 1-2, 1-3, 3-2.

MANCHESTER CITY (from): E Iranel, M Frontzech, K Symons, K Curle, I Brightwell, G Kinkladze, N Clough, S Lomas, N Outen, U Rösler, M Kavelashvili, M Brown, M Phillips, A Kernaghan, M Mergetson. SHEFFELD WEDNESDAY (from): K Pressman, P Atherton, L Briscoe, D Walker, J Newsome, R Blinker, M Pembridge, J Sheridan, M Degryse, G Whittingham, D Hirst, D Kovaosvic, O Donaldson, C Waddle, S Nicol.



MIDDLESBROUGH (from): A Willer, N Cox, N Pearson, S Vickers, P Whelan, C Flenting, Branco, G Kavanagh, C Hignett, J Pollock, Juninho, N Barmity, C Freestone, A Campbell, A Moore, WIMBLEDON (from): N Sultivan, K Curninghern, A Kintile, C Perry, N Ardley, A Pearce, A Reeves, R Earle, V Jones, E Ekoku, D Hoktsworth, A Clarke, J Goodman, J Euell, M Gayle, S Castlectine, P Feer, M Harford.



all-important fifth position, which should guarantee a ticket to Europe. Blackburn's only foreign travel next season will be if they enter the club band, Daiglish and the Incomprehensible Mumblings, in the Eurovision Song Contest. If only people could understand his lyrics. LAST SEASON: Nottingham Forest 0 Blackburn Rovers 2. TEN-YEAR RECORD: — — — — — 1-3. — 0-2.

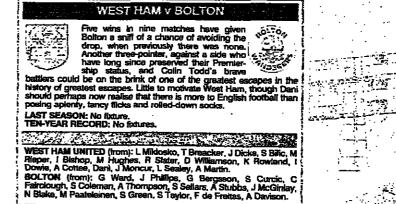
NOTTM FOREST (from): M Crossley, A I Haafand, D Lyttle, S Pearce, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Stone, C Bart-Williams, S Gemmill, I Woan, K Carrobell, J Lee, B Roy, P McGregor, S Howe, D Phillips, A Warnes, BLACKBURIN (from): T Flowers, H Berg, C Colemen, C Hendry, J Kanna, T Sherwood, S Ripley, J Wilcon, A Shearer, M Newell, G Fenton, K Gallacher, G Crolt, W McKinley, M Holmes, N Marker.

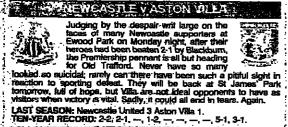


Chalk and cheese confrontation at The Dell, with Southampton tast disappearing down the Premiership plughole and United preening themselves at the top. Dave Merington, Southampton's Geordie manager, would love to do Newcastle a tavour, as would five of the Saints players who have Tyneside connections. Main problem for Merrington is whether to retain the eccentric Grobbelaar in goal or bring back the marginally more reliable Beasant. Either way, United look much too strong to skp up here.

LAST SEASON: Southampton 2 Manchester United 2. TEN-YEAR RECORD: 1-0, 1-1, 2-2, 2-1, 0-2, 1-1, 0-1, 0-1, 1-3, 2-2.

SOUTHAMPTON (from): B Grobbelaar, D Beasant, J Dodd, A Nelson, S Charlton, K Monkou, R Hall, B Verlison, J Magfiton, M Le Tissier, T Wildrington, N Shippenley, N Heaney, G Watson, C Warren, P Tissdek, MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P Schmeichel, P Neville, D Irwin, S Bruce, D May, G Neville, D Beckham, R Keane, N Buft, L Sharpe, R Giggs, E Cantona, A Cole, B McCleir, P Scholes, P Parker, A Coton.





VISIONS When victory is vital. Sadly, it could all end in tears. Again.

LAST SEASON: Newcestle United 3 Astor Villa 1.

TEM-VEAR RECORD: 2-2; 2-1, -1-2, -, -, -, 5-1, 3-1.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): S Histop. G Watson, J Beresford, D Peacock, P Albert, R Lee, D Batty, P Beardsley, D Ginola, P Asprilla, L Ferdinard, K Gillespile, L Cart, W Banton, R Elliott, P Kitson.

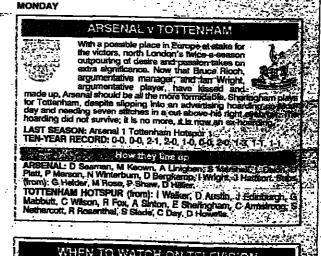
ASTON VILLA: M Bosmich, G Charles, A Wright, P McGrath, I Taylor, U Enlogu, M Draper, A Townsend, T Johnson, D Yorke, S Milosevic, Substituted in Marchael L Hearthing S Stellment R Science. (from): M Oakes, J Joachim, L Hendrie, S Staunton, R Scimeca.

NEXT WEEKS FIXTURES
Everton v Liverpool (8.0)
Aston Villa v West Ham (7.45)
Blackburn v Wimbledon (7.45)
Manchester United v Leeds (8.0)
Newcastle v Southampton (7.45)

Nottingham Forest v Coventry (7.45) Sheffield Wednesday v Chelses (7.45)

HOW THEY STAND

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1 Manchester Utd	34		73	+31	DWWWW.
2 Newcastie	33	(87	+26	WLLWL
3 Liverpool	34	4	85	+35	WLWLW
4 Aston Villa	34	1	62	+20	WLDWW
5 Arsenal	34		57	+16	WLWWL.
6 Totterham	34		55	+10	WLWLD
. 7 Eventon	35		54	+16	DLWWL
8 Notim Forest	33		53	+2	DWLWW.
9 Blackburn	34		51 ·	+8	WILLW-
10. West Hem	34	4	16	-7	WLWDL -
11 Chelses	34		45	0	DLDIM
12 Middlesbrough	-35	4	43	-10	DDWWD
13 Leeds	33		12	-10	DLWLL
14 Sheffleld Wed	34	. :	38.	-9	WELW
15 Wimbledon	34	:	37	-13 ·	LWWDW
16 Southampton	34	3	31 .	-14	WLLWL
17 Manchester City	35	3	31	-27	. WLDLL
18 QPR	35		30	-18	DDWLW
19 Coventry	34		. O	-21	TITMT .
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Leeds the poorer without Silver's community spirit

ith the departure from Leeds United of Leslie Silver, the club has lost a chairman and a visionary. Football in general has lost another of those selfmade millionaires who come into the game, determined to raise a club by its bootstraps, and give much of their time, their personality and eventually their health.

The Leslie Silvers of this world are a dying breed because, at the very top, the clubs now have turnovers on a par with large corporations, and even men who have made millions in their own lifetime can not keep pace with the regeneration required, or tolerate the vindictiveness that comes when a season falls

Silver has resigned from the board, but left his shares at its disposal, on doctor's orders. He suffered a heart attack some years ago, shortly after the paint-manufacturing company he built from nothing into a £50 million enterprise, was gutted by fire. More recently, his home had been entered and he and his wife bound by thieves. But, though 71, he is a tough individual, one whose family had been raised in the East End of London, where his father was in the rag trade and an uncle who introduced him to the pleasures of watching Arsenal kept a market stall.

Nevertheless, the sheer nastiness of Leeds's so-called supporters, something he had tackled with great distinction have encouraged him to stay. When they called for the head of his chosen manager, Howard Wilkinson, after the club's failure at Wembley in the Coca-Cola Cup final last month, they also sniped at Silver: and now Wilkinson is to rebuild the team together with the acting chairman, Bill Fotherby, the club's managing

Silver gave his time for 14 years as chairman and risked considerable capital after being talked onto the board by the outgoing chairman, the late Manny Cussins, who had told him: "It won't cost you a

In reality. Silver had to guarantee the club millions. "I could afford it," he once told



ROB **HUGHES** Weekend View

me, "through luck and endeavour in my business. It was money I had earned. But my family constantly asked why I bothered. It was because I had been a fan from the day I walked into Elland Road after being demobbed in 1945."

He was then a supporter on the terraces, a young man gambling his RAF gratuity and money loaned from members of the family on his embryonic business. Half of the firm's capital was his when

Cussins approached him. What he inherited was a club whose supporters, in the words of a ligh Court judge, risked taking the country to the devil. The judge said that after Leeds hooligans had intimidated Crown witnesses into refusing to give evidence. Perhaps it was coincidence that Silver's resignation came at a time when supporters were again mouthing threats

towards him. Yet tackling hooliganism.

United and redrafting responsibility for the club in the community will always be his legacy. For, apart from putting up money to buy the club out of the old second division. Silver had broken the antagonisms that existed between the club and the police, and also the local council. He redesigned the board into seven shareholding directors, plus three directors from the council, to which he sold the ground, and one supporters' člub member.

What he then needed was a manager of the team who was broadminded enough and business-minded enough to help to rebuild the club. He never failed to remind those who criticise Wilkinson that

redrawing the culture of Leeds when he looked into the eyes of this, the third football manager to work for him, he found for the first time someone who could have managed in any area of any business Silver had known. Such acumen was vital, given that Silver had the nerve and the pocket to withstand a £3 million loss in 1990, the year Leeds rose to the first division, and two years before they became champions.

> It seems incongruous now that his detractors are suggesting he is disillusioned with the club, and will sell his shares when the market value is right. He says not: "I have no intention of selling and no need to sell."

Perhaps, in modern football, you only get away with selling when you are winning.

where four directors, including Martin Edwards, the chairman, sold shares worth £7.4 million at the beginning of this month, one hears no complaints. However, the strength of a football club will always be the bond between the chairman and manager. Silver, having said he would not part with Wilkinson even for the England job, would never be disloyal enough to say if he felt his manager had now lost the plot, and would perhaps not have the heart to look into the eyes of new candidates and start again.

Perhaps, in any case, Silver has earned the right to assume that his decade and a half of service to the club runs far deeper than a coat of paint.

Aldridge's day of joy spells gloom for King

JOHN ALDRIDGE had double cause for celebration yesterday. On the day that Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, gave youth its head, Aldridge, the veteran Tranmere Rovers forward both held his place in the Ireland squad and was appointed player-manager of Tranmere Rovers in succes-

sion to John King. "Ideally, I would have liked the circumstances in which I have taken over to have been better, but that's football," Aldridge, 37, said. "I intend to go on playing for at least the next two seasons."

There will, however, be sympathy for King, the most successful manager in the club's history, who has paid the penalty for Tranmere's first poor season since he took over for a second time in 1987.



Aldridge: manager's role

In his nine years in charge, he took Tranmere from the fourth division to the brink of the top division, being involved in play-offs on three occasions, without managing to take the final step up. King has been offered a consultancy with the club.

"It takes a lot of taking in. but you have to be big enough tootball," King said. "There is a lot of pride in what I have done, but, obviously, lack of finance has been something of a handicap."

Meanwhile, although Mc-Carthy has begun to make changes, leaving out seven of the players from the squad selected to face Russia last month, Aldridge has retained his place for the game against the Czech Republic in Prague

Apart from Roy Keane, who

of a one-match ban after his red card in the match against Russia, the most notable omission is John Sheridan. Alan Kernaghan, Chris Morris, Mick Milligan, Tommy Coyne and Eddie McGoldrick are also left out as McCarthy gives the squad a younger look.

was overlooked in anticipation

In their places, Kenny Cunningham, the uncapped Wim-bledon defender. Gareth Farrelly, of Aston Villa, and Keith O'Neill, of Norwich City, are promoted from the under-21 squad. With attacking players at a premium for Ireland, the choice of O'Neill will generate most excitement. "I felt it was the right time to bring in youngsters like Farrelly and O'Neill," McCar-

thy said. While Aldridge keeps his international hopes alive. there was mixed fortune for Eric Cantona and Gary Pallister. Aithough Cantona has been named footballer of the year, his hopes of a place in the France squad for the finals are still looking thin.

"He is in great form." Aime Jacquet, the France coach, conceded yesterday, "but, in England, Eric profits from playing to a system that suits him. I am not prepared to change our style."

There was better news for Pallister, and thus for Terry Venables, the England coach, whose defensive options have been getting narrower. Pallister could make an unexpectedly early return to Manchester United's team next week. "He trained yesterday and today and has had no reaction," Ferguson said. "I'm not taking him to Southampton, but he can train this weekend, and if he is OK we may arrange a practice game for him on Monday."

Newcastle United have no such comfort, and they received another blow yesterday when Keith Gillespie was taken to hospital after twising an ankle in training.

an ankle in training.

IRELAND SOUAD: A Kaly (Shelfield United), P Borner (Celtic), S Given (Slackburn Rovers). J Kenna (Blackburn Rovers), G Kelly (Leeds United), T Phelan (Chelses), S Stauriton (Aston Villa), P Medicatin (Aston Villa), D Irwin (Merchesser United). L Delish (Coverny Caly), P Babb (Liverpool), K Curningham (Winbledon), R Houghton (Crystal Palace), A Townstend (Aston Villa), J McAsser (Liverpool), A McLoughton (Portsmouth), G Farnelly (Aston Villa), M Kormedy (Liverpool), N Quinn (Manchesser City), J Alchiggs (Transfer Bovers), A Cascarino (Merselles), K O'Nelli (Norwich City)

City gent towers above relegation crisis

David Maddock

on Manchester

City's main

hope of survival

t was school holidays in the North West this week, and Manchester City's training ground was swarming with youngsters. Niall Quinn, a towering figure, was surrounded by them, almost hanging from his clothing, tugging for autographs. It was a scene straight from the television adaptation of Gulliver's Travels.

Quinn is a gentle giant. He soothed the chattering mass around him with the kind words of a favourite uncle --"That's grand young-un, just do this for me little fella. there's a good lad". It was not just a professional doing his duty, either; Quinn is a thoroughly nice bloke.

Too nice, many would say. He has been cold-shouldered by his club this season, treated with an indifference that could have blighted his career. A lucrative move to Sporting Lisbon fell through and much worse has followed.

Criticised for much of this season by Alan Ball, the new City manager, Quinn has had to live with constant speculation that he will be the next sacrifice to the financial spirits that haunt the club. He was forced to train with the youth team at the start of the season, cally since.

Yet he has suffered this indignity with grace, and in silence. He has won back his place, and scored regularly since the turn of the year. Clearly unwanted, and yet asked to work himself to a standstill as a lone forward. Quinn has not just had to bite his tongue, but strap it down. Even now, he is diplomatic. even though he concedes that it is difficult. "I did a lot of training with the reserves, and it did look glum for me." he said, "but I have tried to blank it all out.

"It was disappointing missing the move to Portugal, and at the start of the season I had to prove myself all over again. It seemed I wasn't in the manager's thoughts, and people thought I might have been better off moving. We were all aware that I was one of four or five older players. who signed good contracts at around the same time, and

they were moving one by one. Terry Phelan went, Tony Coton and then Garry Flitcroft, but I'm still here with Keith Curle, so we must have done something right. If I had taken notice of every story that I was leaving, then I would be barking mad by now, but you can't get bitter.



Somehow, you have to plug on, and try to keep in the right frame of mind."

Quinn has managed to hang on to his sanity by pursuing a lifestyle alien to the usual perception of the spoon-fed footballer. He is preparing for retirement and that has enabled him to rise above the peculiar madness that has gripped Maine Road for much of the season. "There is a lot going on in

my life and that makes it easier," he said. "I just concentrate totally on the football when I'm at the club, and then switch off completely when I'm away from it. That way, I'm not dwelling on it — and that's probably a good thing in our position. I have formed my own company, breeding horses, and racing allows me a release. In football, you can't jump up and down and do all that screaming stuff, but, if I'm on the racecourse and one of mine is running, that's a

real escape. Quinn also has a two-year old daughter, and is building his own house in Ireland sanctuary if required. He may need it. City have been enticed back onto the dance floor for another breathless waltz with relegation, after seeming to

have escaped from its clammy embrace weeks ago. The question is, why? The

club has internationals and some gifted individuals, and yet defeat today by Sheffield Wednesday would almost certainly condemn them. Rall's attitude has not

helped. The manager's targets

usually appear to be those players who were there BC -Before Croaky. Some say that he has one approach to those

players he bought, and a very different one for those already there. Some have left, but Ouinn remains, along with Curle, Rösler, Brightwell and Lomas. Ironically, it is to this



Young City enthusiasts secure a Quinn autograph

group that Ball must now

look for salvation. Quinn believes that the problems are deeper than just the uncertainty felt by those players. "Sometimes we look like world beaters, but then the next game we couldn't even beat our own reserves," he said. "We seem to lack professionalism." He pauses. and chooses his words with admirable thought. "No, it's not that, it's more a lack of that ultra steely spirit that wins games when they are

tight, in the balance." That quality must be found today. If it is, then it will probably be Quinn who delivers, as seven goals in his past seven starts tesitify. It may, of course, be his swansong, because, if City stay up, Ball will be free to complete his grand restructuring. Quinn greets the prospect

with typical pragmatism. He has adopted the chorus of the song recorded by Oasis, the dub's most famous supporters — You've Got To Roll With It. "I've not looked beyond our final three games." Quinn said. "We have to win those, and then who knows? The manager has big plans, but I don't know

Wembley welcomes newcomers to roll of honour

By Nick Szczepanik

IT USED to be the favourite oke of supporters about rivals who had never made it to a cup final — what is the difference between (name of club) and the Pope? Answer: The Pope has appeared at Wembley. Fewer clubs are prey to that one nowadays, however; recent first-time visitors have included Torquay United, Chesterfield and York City and, tomorrow. Rotherham United and Shrewsbury Town run out for the first time at football's most famous stadium in the final of the Auto Windscreens Shield, the knockout competition for Endsleigh Insurance League second and third division

The attendance will far outstrip the sum of the clubs' normal home crowds. "Our average gate is 3,500 and we are taking 15,000," Fred Da-vies, the Shrewsbury manager, said. "People who come regularly are bringing the family.

It will also be a weekend away from the pressures of the league: the teams have identical points records at the lower end of the second division and drew 2-2 only last Saturday. They took a two-goal lead. out we came back at them. Davies said. "Both are good footballing sides and there will be two teams trying to play on Sunday."

Shrewsbury's key players are likely to be Mark Taylor, the midfield player, and lan Stevens, the forward who has scored 18 goals in 27 games, while Rotherham's men most likely are Shaun Goater, the Bermuda international striker, and Matthew Clarke, the goalkeeper and captain at

John McGovern and Archie Gemmill, the joint-managers of Rotherham, appeared at Wembley in League Cup finals for Nottingham Forest, while Nigel Jemson, the forward, scored Forest's winner in the 1990 Littlewoods Cup final. Such familiarity. though, has done nothing to reduce the impact on the trio of the Yorkshire club's achievement. "For the type of club we are," McGovern said,

to Wembley." ☐ Lancing Old Boys meet Old Brentwoods in the Arthur Dunn Cup final at Motspur Park today. Lancing, who are coached by Ken Shearwood, a Pegasus stalwart in the Fifties, last won the cup in 1993; Brentwoods' last success was

Evans goes up in bid for the top

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

PAUL EVANS used to think that the advice given to him by Charlie Spedding, the last Briton to win an Olympic marathon medal, was "a load of baloney", but not any more. "I thought he was winding me up, Evans said. Taking notice of Spedding now. Evans begins his Flora London Marathon today.

The marathon is tomorrow week, but Evans, the runner-up in the New York City Marathon last November, believes that it will be a significant step towards a top-three position in London if he can beat his fellow Britons in the Bupa road race over five kilometres in Portsmouth this afternoon, Eamonn Martin, the 1993 London Marathon champion looking for a second win next weekend, is

among the opposition today. Forty-two kilometres [26 miles] is very different from five kilometres, but it is a mental thing for me." Evans said. "It is important I beat the British boys. Maybe the others do not care, because it is only five kilometres, but it is important psycholog-

ically for me. When I started running marathons, I asked Charlie Spedding for the middle of next week and, though advice and he seemed to be more he has felt sluggish this week, he

concerned about the mental aspect than the physical one. He said that the most important thing was to stand on the start line believing in

"I used to think, if you were fit, that was enough. When I read his letter, I thought. What a load of baloney. but, as I have got older, the more I have come to realise how right he was. After all, he has run Zhr 08min and I have not."

The fact that Evans has not broken 2hr 10min clearly disturbs him Asked what he meant when he said that he was looking for a "good". London, Evans, fifth twice, said "a fast time", before correcting himself to winning it. In possibly the strongest field yet for a London Marathon, Evans is an outsider.

However, his preparation could not have gone better. For the first time, he has devoted a lengthy spell to altitude training. He returned last Saturday from 312 weeks of running at 6,000 feet in South Africa, taking advice from Khalid Skah, the Olympic 10,000 metres champion. Skah told Evans to expect to feel tired until hopes to have recovered sufficiently to "put one over on my opponents who are running in the London Marathon". Evans was convinced that he

should try altitude training after looking at the results of the London Marathon last year. He noted that the four men ahead of him all trained at altitude or in warm weather or both. Contrast that with Evans, who spent the winter "training in two tracksuits and freezing to death" from his home in Lowestoft.

While Martin, Gary Staines and Andrew Pearson represent formidable British opposition for Evans today, the international challenge may prove even tougher. The field includes Paulo Guerra, the European cross country champion, from Portugal, and Philip Mosima, twice world iunior cross country champion, from

In the women's race, Liz McColgan will be looking for a fast time. "Aweek before winning the 1991 New York Marathon, I set a world five kilometres record in Chicago [14min 57seci," she said. "The Portsmouth race could not have come at a better

European success would give Hall triple triumph

FROM RICHARD EATON IN HERNING

DARREN HALL, who qualified for the Olympic Games 12 days ago, and extended his record of English national singles titles to eight last week. has a chance of a third important triumph in three weeks by winning a medal at the European badminton championships, which start here in Denmark today. Hall, 30, from Essex, has been playing so well that his hopes of regaining the title that he captured eight years ago cannot entirely be ruled out.

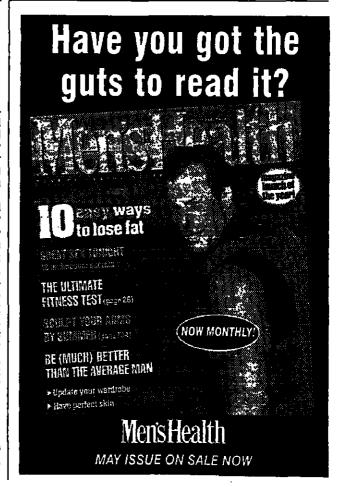
One of the secrets of Hall's revival in the evening of his career has been an ability to remain injury-free, and he will go into the men's singles here as the No 3 seed, having twice recently taken Poul-Erik Hoyer, the defending champion and No I seed, the distance in outstanding matches.

"Ouite a lot of people had written me off, but I always felt that, if I could get clear of injuries again, I could play something like my best," Hall, who has been one of England's two most successful men's singles players since the Second World War, said. Beating Hoyer, however, will be extremely difficult. The elegant left-

hander confounded most expectations by retaining the all-England title last month in an exceptional field, and he will be seeded to win the silver medal in Atlanta. If Hoyer wins again a week today, it will complete a hat-trick of European men's singles titles. Denmark have such a powerful

squad that they are not only favourites to regain the team title from Sweden over the next three days but also could become the first country to win all six European gold medals. England, at best, look capable of the team bronze, but, in the mixed doubles in the individual events, that start on Tuesday, Simon Archer and Julie Bradbury are favourites to win gold. Bradbury could, in fact, win two European titles because she and Joanne Wright are the No 2 seeds in the women's

doubles. The withdrawal of Lim Xiaoging, the Chinese-born Swede, the No I seed and title-holder in the women's singles, has enabled Anne Gibson to become the first Scot to gain a seeding in this event. She is No 8.



ALDRIDGE PULLS ON MANAGER'S HAT AT TRANMERE

SATURDAY APRIL 13 1996

Champion fails to defend his Masters title beyond the halfway stage

Crenshaw suffers cruellest cut

GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN AUGUSTA

SAM TORRANCE'S involvement in the sixtieth Masters ended just before lunch here yesterday when he added a much-improved 71 to his firstround 80 for a 36-hole total of 151. Torrance was not alone on this score, seven over par and certain to miss the halfway cut. An hour later came the sad sight of Ben Crenshaw. the defending champion, walking up the 18th to the site of his emotional triumph last

Then he finished with a five and he did so again this year. But last year it was good enough to give him a onestroke victory over Davis Love III, whereas this year all that remained was for him to head to the clubhouse and kick his heels for two days before he could perform the ceremonial role of putting the green jacket on the shoulders of the winner this year and congratulating him in front of millions of television viewers. Crenshaw's rounds were 77

"Not to play your best golf here after winning is very, disappointing, Crenshaw said. some really good holes and some very poor ones. As champion you are expected to do all you can but the ball has got to run for you. I am going to be an innocent bystander next couple of

Torrance's first round was what did the damage that was ultimately to prevent him playing the last two rounds for the first time in his three appearances in this event. 'After that I wanted to go into a corner, have a beer and sulk." Torrance said. "But my Dad told me to get out on the practice ground and I am glad I did."

Torrance said the wind was "wicked". It got up overnight to turn a course that Greg Norman and Phil Mickelson had flattened, with a 63 and 65 respectively on Thursday, a day when 32 of the 93 competing golfers broke par, into one that bared its teeth yesterday. The 12th proved a terror. Crenshaw had a six there after a gust of wind got up just as he hit his tee shot and blew it 30 vards left.

The wind made both the par fives on the homeward half much more difficult and even as early as lunchtime it became clear that there would be no rounds containing nine birdies, as Norman's had the previous day. Almost without exception the early finishers



Lyle tracks the progress of his tee shot at the 4th hole during his second round of 74 in the Masters at Augusta yesterday. Photograph: Stephen Munday/Allsport

have scored only a few strokes more than they had in the first round.

Ian Baker-Finch went from a 78 to a 79, Jerry Courville from 78 to 82, Steve Elkington, the USPGA champion, from 76 to 79. Mark McCumber from 78 to 82. One exception to the general rule was Fred Couples, who improved from a 78, a round in which he and Gordon Sherry, his playing partner, were throwing bogeys at one another, to a 68 thanks to seven birdies. Another was Corey Pavin, the US Open champion, who improved from a 75 to a 66.

"Only the greens are a problem," Costantino Rocca said, after a 75 for a nine-over par total of 153, just before he walked hand in hand with his little daughter up the hill from the 18th green to the clubhouse. "They are no flat." Rocca will fly home to Italy, climb in his car and drive to Cannes and. in his own words,

United States unless stated, par 72 146; F Couples 78 68; L Mize 75 71 147; T Walson 75 72

Dougherty 76 75, K Triplett 76 75 152: T Herron 76 76; K Peny 75 77, T Kite 75 / 1 153: W Austin 79 74, D Edwards 79 74; C Pocca (II) 78 75, B Bryant 78 75 154: E Maylar 77 77 155: S Ekkington (Aus.) 76 79, B Henninger 75 79; G Sherry (GB) 78 77. 157: I Baker-Finch (Aus.) 78 79.

the tournament next week. In a couple of weeks the Italian Open will be played at Bergamo, his home club. How will the greens be there? "They will be fast," Rocca promised, "but they will be a little bit more flat

Tiger Woods seemed almost certain to miss the cut, just as Sherry, his friend and fellow amateur, had. Woods, playing

SCORES FROM AUGUSTA

158; ° C Wolfmann 79 79. 160; ° B Marucci 79 81, J Courville 75 82. C Coody 82 78; M McCumber 78 82. 169; D Ford 81 88 The leading #4 scores and bes plus players within 10 shots of the leader quality for the final rounds

First-round B Tway, S Hoch 68; L Janzen 69; D Giltord (GB), B Faxon, N Falco (GB), S Smpson, V Smgh (Fiji), 70; P Azinger, S McCarron, R Floyd, D Frost (SA), J Gaflagher jnr, J Nicklaus, J Haes 71; T Asron, J Maggeri, F Nobito (N2), N Proce (Zim), S Lowery, B Glasson, B Estes, M Calcavechia, J Huston, F Funk, J Dely, C Strange, E Els (SA), M Ozaki (Japen), L Roberts 72; TTryba, H Sydton, D Waldorf,

distances. On the 10th, for example, Woods hit a massive drive, one that threatened to

run into the finger-shaped

bunker that is meant to act as

a penalty for weak second

shots. It was a drive approach-

with Torn Watson, a predecessor at Stanford University, had another 75, again highlighted by enormous hitting and regular misjudgments of

ing 375 yards and was 50 yards past Watson's.

But whereas Watson got his par, Woods's second shot was pulled left and short and then rolled back down the slope from the front of the green. He chipped close but was unable to hole the putt. He had taken four shots to cover 125 yards; the name of the professional game is to learn how to cover

Dougherty, N. Lancaster T. Harron, B. Herninger, S. Blungton, S. Higgshi, Mapan, Tr. 8, Maytar, B. Crenshaw, 78: S. Bryani, M. McCumber, I. Baker-Finch, C. Rocca, "J. Counsile," G. Sherry, F. Couples, 79: B. Marucca, "C. Wolfmann, W. Austin, D. Edwards, 30: S. Torrance, S. Stricker, 81: D. Entril, 82: C. Couples, 19:
those distances in two strokes. One shot better off than Woods. but still in danger, was Sandy Lyle, who added a 74 to his 75 in the first round for a five-over par total of 149.

As the day wore on there was no lessening of admiration for Norman's 63. It was one of the great championship rounds, one that he considered to be almost as good as his 63 at Turnberry in the second round of the 1986 Open and his 64 at Royal St George's on the last day of the 1993

"I'll be able to reflect on this for years to come," Norman said. "Every time I come back here I'll think, 'Boy, you shot 63 here'. You remember when you shoot a 63. You don't forget the shots you played and the putts you made." Amid the admiration for Norman's phenomenal burst of six birdies in his last seven holes it might be forgotten how well he played at the start of his

round. "I don't think people realise quite how hard the first five holes are," he said. "When I got through them with some solid golf and some good putts I stood on the 6th tee and said: Phew. Now perhaps we can

do something." By playing so well, Norman created a problem for himself - living up to his own skills. There have been only four champions who have led from start to finish at this event and the last one was Ray Floyd in 1976. "You have to keep the momentum going somehow," Norman said in the glowing aftermath of his round. "You know you're not going to shoot three more 63s, so you try not to let it get away from you and get too excited about it."

Mickelson's and then Norman's rounds brought the opening day to a crescendo. Days like that are rare at major championships and all the more special for being so.

Sherry departs, page 43

reeled off the course grafeful to "hope to play four rounds" in TCCB clears Malcolm

DEVON MALCOLM has escaped disciplinary action over his criticism of England's team management on the recent cricket tour of South Africa. Malcolm, the Derbyshire fast bowler, was cleared after an investigation by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB).

In a series of articles in the Daily Express, Malcolm claimed that he was verbally abused by Raymond Illingworth, the England manager, and also suggested that the criticism was racially motivated.

The TCCB statement said: "Malcolm has assured the board that in those articles he did not suggest or intend to suggest that the England manager or management had used language or exhibited behaviour towards him which was of a racist nature."

over criticism of tour In return, the England management has assured Malcolm that it never intended to "cause offence or distress" to him. "The board has decided not to take the matter further."

it said. The TCCB noted Malcolm's previous "exemplary record on overseas tours", and that he remains eligible for selection for England in future".

Dennis Amiss, the chief executive of Warwickshire, yesterday put his weight behind Ian Botham's bid to become a selector. Speaking on BBC Radio Five Live, Amiss said: "I believe Botham has got to be involved. He was such a great player and he has his heart in the right place. selector, his sheer presence would be a huge benefit."

New season opens, page 41

Super League opens with scoring spree Christopher Irvine looks at the spectacular start to

Super League, a try is scored on average every eight minutes. The first 18 matches in the new rugby league competition have brought 183 tries - unprecedented scoring, which is trying some spectators's patience and converting others.

Before last night's game between Warrington and Halifax, matches had averaged 58 points, compared with 48 points in the first 16 games of the centenary season. The introduction of Paris Saint-Germain exaggerates the points equation, but, even subtracting the new side's 14 tries from the total try count, the figure of 169 still represents a 15 per cent increase in tries on the

same stage last season. The theory that tries equals entertainment equals more speciators is being born out by high-scoring yet competitive matches in many stances and a rise in crowds. It is the contrivance that the staunch traditional followers object to. That, and the remoulding, fancy packaging and new presentation of their sport. What Sky Television, in its coversummer rugby league and the problems it may pose

age, describes as "same game, different attitude" is half-true. In its short life, Super League has become almost a new sport, a cross between basket-ball, in terms of high scoring, and ice hockey, in terms of break-neck speed and the new interchange system, which allows six substitutions per side.

Fresh legs are quickening the game. while the now almost unlimited space at the play-the-ball - or play-touchfootball, as it is in danger of becoming known — is an open invitation to attacking sides. With the weather still to warm up and pitches to become parched, the crumbling of defences has probably only just begun, unless improved fitness levels can bring about better defensive organisation.

St Helens, the Super League leaders, are the only one of the 12 teams to have conceded less than 20 points a game; at the bottom, Workington's defence is leaking an average of 52 points. If tries are so readily available, then the team that sorts out its defence would seem to stand the best chance of ultimate victory.

As fast and spectacular as much as the action is, an ideological debate is raging about whether it is actually rughy league. The muddied oafs are no more. Forwards no longer drive the ball up into the waiting embrace of an opposition forward. They are part of the seamless pattern, their distinction lost in the lust for speed. "Anyone even a bit slow is dead in this game," one player said. A comment this week by Maurice

Lindsay, the Rugby Football League chief executive, that players are getting better is not so much the case as they are going faster and, in the opinion of Garry Schofield, the most skilful player of his generation, are becoming less skilled.

Schofield, who now plays in the first

Super League Week: "I think we [defences] ought to be no more than five metres back from the play-the-ball the rule is ten metres, then we could find out where the players of skill are, because they would be the guys

opening the defences. "Australia have tried various sys-tems and been through the big score syndrome. I can't accept that two sets of players who are so far apart can produce anything other than the kind of rugby league we are seeing at the neni. It's all loaded in favour of the big guys, with the element of skill n-graded."

When the day comes again to play Anstralia, Lindsay said that a fitter Great Britain side would be able to demonstrate improved performance levels. The question then would be: would they know how to defend? Sydney City's 10-4 defeat of Canterbury last week was described in Australia as the match of the decade. A defensive stranglehold is unlikely to be a feature of round four of Super

Bishop will :5 attempt to bring clubs and union together

BY DAVID HANDS

BILL BISHOP, president of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) is to play a direct role in negotiations between the union and its leading clubs. But, in a fresh twist to an increasingly tangled plot, the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) yesterday offered its services as a mediator between the warring factions.

The RFU's full committee met in London yesterday after deadlock had been reached over the degree of control the union seeks to exercise over the newly professionalised clubs. England's leading 20 clubs want more independence to run their own affairs than their governing body is prepared to give and, on Thursday, announced their withdrawal from next season's RFU competitions.

The entry of Bishop into the fray will bring hope to both sides if it diverts attention from the two personalities who have tended to dominate the public perception of the disagreement: Cliff Brittle, chairman of the RFU executive committee who has led his union's negotiating panel, and Sir John Hall, chairman of Newcastle United Sporting Clubs. Bishop said yesterday: "It's time that I did enter the talks. I was kept away to protect the office of the president. I can add some experience and feel for the game." Sources suggest that the

RFU committee has realised the need for agreement if a split damaging to both sides is to be avoided. Accusations of intransigence have flown thick and fast, but the differences

Debt to Orkney

are not so great if the clubs can be granted some measure of graduated independence which will allow them to run their businesses successfully

in the new era. That the clubs are in deadly earnest is illustrated by their search for a sponsor who can deal on their behalf with television companies: their representatives have contacted both Vernon Pugh, chairman of the Welsh Rugby Union and also of the IRFB, and Louis Luyt, president of the South African Rugby Football Union, since IRFB regulations permit only governing bodies to negotiate TV rights.

An IRFB statement yesterday confirmed an approach to Pugh from the clubs but said that a meeting could be set up only with the consent and in the presence of representatives of the RFU. If the IRFB is a requested to act as a mediator or to assist in discussions relating to a dispute, it would be prepared to do so, but only with the consent of, and on terms acceptable to, that union. The IRFB can provide the services of its acting secretary, Bob Weighill [a former secretary to the RFU or any of its officials."

Bristol yesterday confirmed that Garath Archer would be leaving them to join Newcastle next season, and launched a blistering attack on the England lock forward. David Tyler, the director of rugby, claimed that Archer had made himself unavailable for selection for today's crucial meeting with Leicester in the Courage Clubs Championship first division by failing to seek medical treatment for a knee injury incurred against Bath a fortnight ago, failing to train, and failing to turn up for contractual discussions with Alan Davies, the new coach, earlier this week.



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* US force sails for Liberia as anarchy imperils rescue

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

AN AMERICAN navai task force was heading for Liberia yesterday as a complete breakdown of law and order complicated Pentagon efforts to evacuate hundreds of Americans and other foreigners from the capital, Monrovia

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Succession

rubsoff

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The task force is sailing from the Adriatic and will take about ten days to reach the West African coast. It consists of the USS Guam, an amphibious assault ship, the USS Connolly, a destroyer, and three support ships with 1,300 US Marines on board. "We're planning for a contingency in a worst case," said an officer.

As anarchy swept Monrovia. American troops had to repel marauders who broke into the grounds of the US Ambassador's residence. Daylight helicopter flights were was attacked by rocket-propelled grenades. The Pentagon dispatched additional helicopters from US bases.

International aid agencies and the United Nations were evacuating most of their foreign staff, but leaving behind local aid workers, as the country slid further into chaos. Ruth Marshall, a spokeswoman for the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said the situation was untenable, after a series of raids on the UNHCR com-

pound. "There is almost com-

plete anarchy in Monrovia.

There are bodies in the street.

There is really wanton car-

nage," she said. Another spokesman, Francis Kpatinde, said: "It feels bad to leave. But what can we do?. We can't move around. We don't have anyone to speak to. All the leaders of the factions are in Monrovia, but

they are just silent." Aid agencies were unable even to estimate the numbers of killed and wounded because it was too dangerous to go on

Frontières and the International Committee of the Red Cross said that they were trying to withdraw.
The UNHCR was caring for

about 120,000 refugees from Sierra Leone in Monrovia, along with another 1.2 million Liberians who had fled from fighting elsewhere in the country earlier in the conflict. A spokesman said that they last visited the refugees several days ago, when they were short of food, water, and medical care.

The refugee agency and Unicef, the UN children's fund, were leaving their 123 Liberian workers in Monrovia. A handful of foreign staff from the UN were expected to set up a crisis cell in the suburb of Riva View, which is controlled by the African Ecomog peacekeeping force. One UN official in Geneva

said that, apart from reports of looting by the peacekeepers. Ecomog troops had "not even



Families who fled Monrovia wait to board a US Air Force transport plane at Freetown international airport in Sierra Leone yesterday

moved their little finger™ to protect aid workers.

There are about 223 non-Liberian staff in the country. including 92 military observers. Most of the UN's expatriates were due to board a freighter in Monrovia heading

for Abidjan in Senegal. About 900 US servicemen are assisting the evacuation. More than 800 foreigners have been rescued since Tuesday, including about 150

Americans and a few British, but they were the most accessible. US troops now have to run a gauntlet of gunfire to rescue hundreds more from refuges around the city. Until now all evacuations

had taken place from the embassy, a State Department spokesman said. "Now we're beginning to go out to points where groups of Americans and foreigners are located." A substantial number of foreign-

from a defunct Voice of America radio transmitter station. and up to 100 missionaries and their families were said to have taken refuge at a Chris-

African peace team in Monrovia talks

By Sam Kiley, africa correspondent

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se Depository on behalf of Recievers, Liquidators and other

FIERCE fighting erupted yes-terday around a Monrovia barracks where a breakaway faction was holed up with hundreds of hostages as a West African diplomatic delegation arrived in the Liberian

capital. As the peace team sent by President Rawlings of Ghana met Charles Taylor, the dominant warlord in Monrovia. his chief aide hotly denied that the fighting had broken out because Mr Taylor was bent on establishing himself as Liberia's President.

Heavy artillery and mortars pounded the sprawling poarracks complex where Roosevelt Johnson and his largely Krahn tribal followers were holding at least 400 Liberians shields against Mr Taylor's men - mainly descendants of have formed an alliance with

Mandingo tribe. Elsewhere in the city looting continued unchecked.

A spokesman at the US Embassy organising the evacuation of foreigners said: "We are receiving calls all the time from people who want to come to Mamba Point la beachside suburb where many embassies are based but are unable to get here."

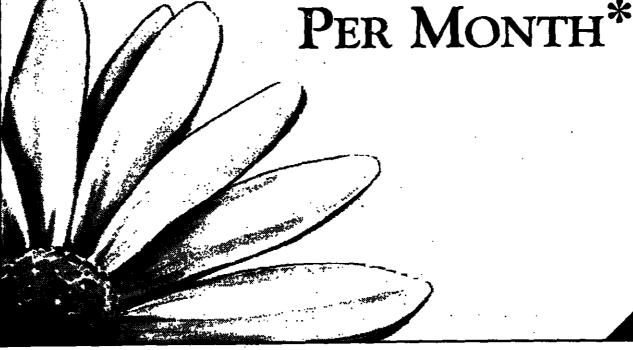
He said that no US military personnel had been sent on rescue missions into the town. but that the embassy security officer and guards from Mr Taylor's faction were touring "safer areas" in search of

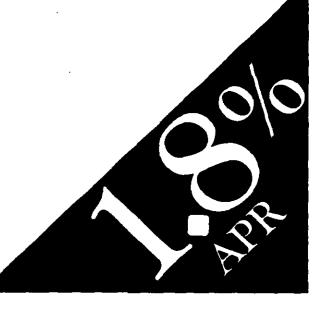
trapped foreigners.

General Johnson was accused of murder several weeks ago. But many foreign diplomats believe that Mr Taylor used the arrest warrant as a smokescreen in an the commercially powerful power-sharing arrangement.



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Self-made men of North vie for Valentino vote in ballot battle of Milan

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN MILAN

BENEATH the fairy-tale Gothic spires of Milan cathedral, a gleaming red 1955 Ferrari Monza is on display to advertise a new perfume. Nearby, in the discreet elegance of Via Monte Napoleone - Milan's equivalent of Bond Street - Gucci and Valentino vie for the attention

of well-heeled shoppers.
This is one of the main battlegrounds of the election, now a week away. Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon,



former Prime Minister and local boy made good, is fighting for the key seat of Milan

Signor Berlusconi on his posters: suave, tanned, mobile telephone constantly to hand.

His main opponent in Milan Central also comes from the area. But Umberto Bossi, the tousled, bespectacled leader of the separatist Northern League, is rough-hewn by comparison. Like Signor Berlusconi, he has risen from bumble origins unlike the tycoon, who was a salesman and cruise-ship singer, Signor Bossi still looks like the local The Bossi campaign buses

seem out of place amid power-dressed Milanese. Wagner blares from tinny loudspeakers as scruffy young men lean out of bus windows waving the League flag — a red cross on a white background — and trumpet the Bossi dream of a lapsed after eight months separate state: "Enough of taxes, enough of Rome, long live the Republic of Padania

The battle of Milan Central is vital not only for Signor Berlusconi's chances of be-coming Prime Minister again, but also for the future of Italy as a unitary state. The 1994 election, fought with new rules that were supposed to ed a policy of "autonomy for give Italy a clearer result and the nation of the North within more stable government, proa confederation". duced a narrow Centre Right But Signor Bossi promajority under Signor Ber-lusconi. But the coalition col-

when Signor Bossi withdrew his 120 deputies. This time the League is oing it alone. We have had enough of electoral alliances," said Roberto Calderolli, its secretary general, in the party's down-at-heel headquarters. He denies the League is: "secessionist", arguing that the media have misinterpret-

claimed the new state of Padania a month ago, defining it as the North as far down as Umbria. He gave an audience of shopkeepers and blue-collar workers — the League's natural constituency - a thoughtful analysis of the North-South divide. But he still whips up anti-Southern sentiment by accusing "those people in Naples and Calabria" of siphoning off 'your

pointed out that Signor Berlusconi has promised to cut taxes to help the selfemployed, but owns the giant supermarkets that are putting

shopkeepers out of business. Opinion polls nonetheless suggest the League's message may have lost its appeal. It was transformed from a fringe protest movement into a national force by the collapse of the established parties in 1992, after the Milan magistrates' anti-corruption drive. Lombardy. Piedmont and the Veneto still have a per capita income twice that of

Sicily or Calabria, and are enjoying an export-led boom. Northern Italy is one of the richest regions in Europe. Northern industrialists resent the fact that, because of the South, Italy is in danger of slipping into Europe's "sec-ond division" and has little

hope of joining the single currency from the outset. Signor Bossi's antics and crude language no longer endear him to the middle classes. But nobody is writing off the League. It is still likely

Hong Kong told by China to stay clear of politics

From Jonathan Mirsky in hong kong

PEKING yesterday reassured foreign passport holders wanting to stay in Hong Kong after the 1997 handover, but issued a warning that the colony must not become a centre of

political activity.
Lu Ping, Director of the State Council's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, said Hong Kong people of Chinese parentage, including foreign passport holders, will be regarded as Chinese if they live in the city after 1997 — as long as they do not declare openly they have the right of abode in another country.

Those of non-Chinese par entage who have lived in Hong Kong for generations and have no other home such as thousands of ethnic Indians — will be entitled to legal residence, Mr Lu said. His remarks will reassure

many in such positions, but are unlikely to stem the tide of those seeking foreign pass-ports in case the situation here comes unbearable after 1997. Only senior judges and a handful of high-ranking bureaucrats cannot hold foreign passports. Mr Lu said. But such officials have the assurance of a British passport at any time, which means they can truthfully deny holding one. Legislative Council memhers, too, cannot hold foreign passports, Mr Lu added.

Zhou Nan, Director of the Hong Kong branch of the

New China News Agency. Peking's de facto embassy here, delivered a degree of tough talking to the same audience — a conference on the colony's economic future. Indeed, Mr Zhou has taken a tough line with foreigners since his early days as an interrogator of American and British prisoners during the Korean War.

In the only speech without an accompanying English

> **6** Peking uses the concept of stability to justify many crackdowns 9

ext, Mr Zhou observed that Hong Kong is an economic centre and not a political one, and most people here did not want it to become an arena for political struggle. "Any attempt to change Hong Kong's position as an economic centre by any means will only harm its stability and thus harm its prosperity ... more and more people realise that Hong Kong's stability must be

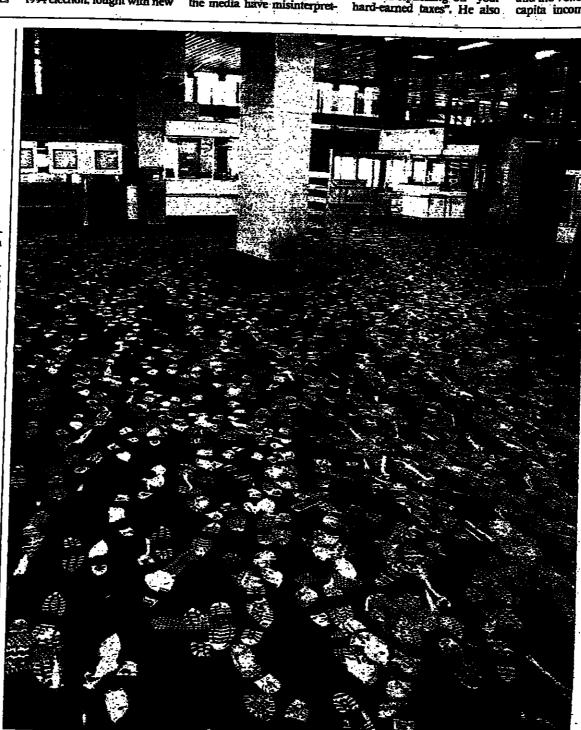
Peking uses the concept of

stability to justify many crack-

Only one speaker said explicitly that Hong Kong people are worried about the future, including the survival of a free press. He was Hiroshi Zaizen, a director of Japan's Mitsubishi Corporation.

Despite his stated intention to listen to the views of others, Mr Lu's week in Hong Kong be devoted to making clear Peking's implacable pos-ition. This is understood here by those in the crowd of protesters who mobbed his car when he arrived at the airport, and by the leaders of the main teachers' union whose invita-tion to meet Mr Lu was withdrawn this week because they refused to approve in advance of the meeting. China's establishment of a new appointed Legislative Council.

Chris Patten, the Governor, has also been barred. Mr Zhou has pointedly invited his deputy, Anson Chan, to dinner with Mr Lu next week. This continues what Mr Pat-ten calls his "lunchless and dinnerless" tradition whenever Mr Lu visits the colony. ☐ London: Malcolm Rifkind. the Foreign Secretary, will meet his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, in The Hague on April 20 to discuss "matters of mutual interest, concentrating on Hong Kong", the Foreign Office said. (AFP)



The footprints of fleeing passengers left in the soot at the main terminal of Düsseldorf airport

Repair firm faces charges over German airport fire

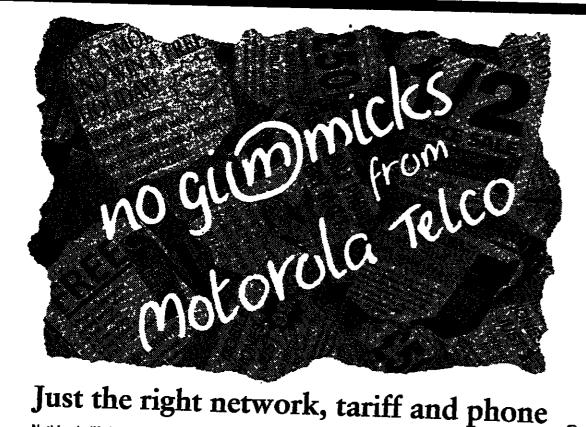
FROM PETER BILD

GERMAN state prosecutors are to press charges of criminal negligence and manslaughter against a Dortmund maintenance company and its sub-contractor after the Düsseldorf airport fire in which 16 people. including a British soldier, died and more than 60 were injured.

Welding work has been established as the cause of sparks which travelled down flucting to ignite electrical cable on Thursday. The resulting ball of fire, which devastated nearly half of the terminal, which is one-third of a mile long, unleashed clouds of toxic black smoke which suffocated and poisoned its victims. The city's senior prosecutor, Rolf Chanteaux, said "all those concerned" with the maintenance work would be charged.

The British victim was Martin Smith, 22, who was serving with the 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards in Münster, north Germany. He was on his way to Britain on a week's leave to visit his girlfriend. The private from Tamworth, Staffordshire, joined the army in 1992. The airport authorities have come under heavy attack. Passengers described how the air-conditioning sucked up the poisonous fumes and blew them out into the arrival hall, creating a dense smog. The authorities are blamed for the failure to alert... the city fire service for nearly 30 mirrutes. "By the time we arrived on the scene, there was nothing we could do," a fire officer said.

There was criticism, too, that passengers and staff were given no loudspeaker an-nouncements or information. Defending procedures, airport chief Berndt Rietdorf claimed that all the smoke detectors worked and the airport fire service was on the scene within four minutes. But a taxi driver raised the alarm when he saw smoke billowing from the building. By the time the airport fire service went into action, burning roof tiles were falling into the flower shop below the electric wiring ignited by the welding work.



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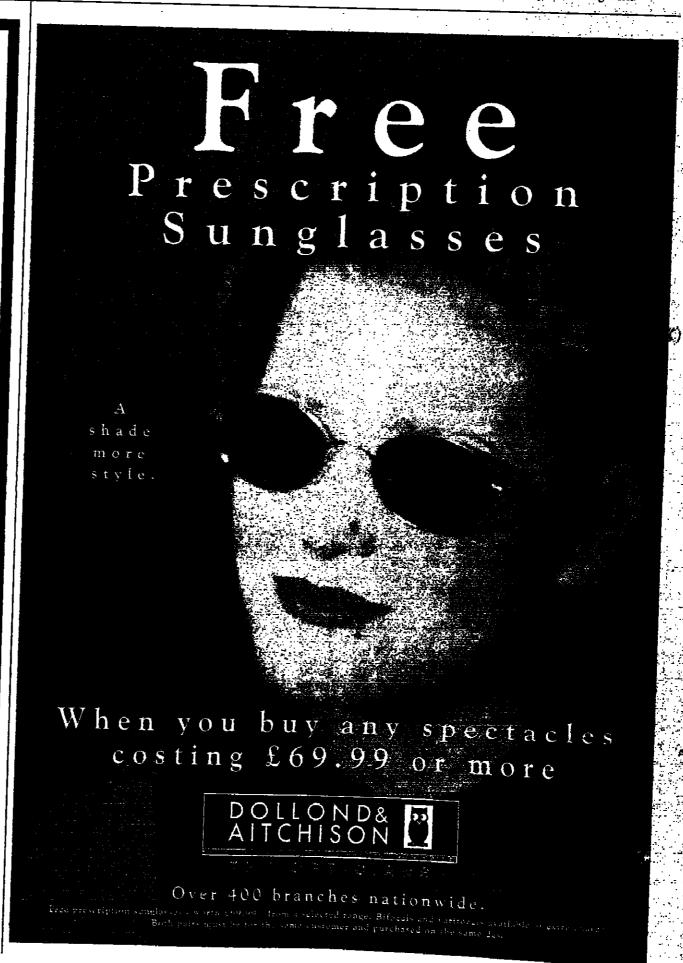
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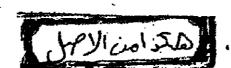
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Mother defends fatal flight of child pilot

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

FRAMED by tousled hair and a baseball cap, the smiling face of Jessica Dubroff, who died in a crash while trying to become the youngest person to pilot a plane across America. adorned almost every newspaper front page in America yesterday. As her mother de-fended the right of a sevenyear-old to fly, aviation experts mourned a victim of bad adult judgment".

in a tearful interview on NBC television's Today, Jessica Dubroff's mother. Lisa Blair Hathaway, said she had talked to her daughter in the cockpit of the plane just before she took off on Thursday from the airport at Cheyenne, Wyoming. Asked if she regretted allowing her daughter to make the flight, she said: "Oh, I'd have her do it again, in a second. You have no idea what this meant to Jess."

The crash, in which Jessica, her father and her flight instructor died soon after takeoff from Cheyenne, provoked a wave of national sadness. It also prompted a federal review of the rules governing flying by minors, and angry comment on the motives of

highly ambitious parents. I ask anybody that questions whether Jessica should have gone up to speak to somebody who loves her dear-ly." Mrs Hathaway said. "I guarantee they would say she should have been up there. She had a freedom which you can't get by holding her back." Mrs Hathaway learnt of her

daughter's death in Massa-

Jessica: "she was not a

chussetts, where she was to Joe Reid, Jessica's veteran have landed her single-engined Cessna yesterday after a three-day journey.

Before flying to Chevenne to identify the bodies of Jessica and her former husband. Lloyd Dubroff, Mrs Hathaway said her grief was tem-pered by knowing that, when her daughter died, she "went with her joy and her passion. and her life was in her hands". Anticipating the furore that has since erupted, Mrs Hathaway said: "I beg people to let children fly if they want to." Within hours, however, the

head of Washington's Federal Aviation Administration had ordered a review of the regulations that allowed a sevenyear-old who could barely see out of the cockpit to be at the controls of an aircraft in dangerous conditions. Under American law, 16-year-olds may fly solo and children of any age may take the controls if an instructor in the co-pilot's seat believes them to be competent. Yesterday criticism in America's aviation community focused on the judgment of

instructor and owner of the Cessna 177B in which she was killed.

Fellow pilots were astonished that Mr Reid, who was legally in command of the aircraft, should have taken off in worsening conditions from a high-altitude airfield. In the thin air at 6,000ft at the foot of the Rockies, the 150-horsepower Cessna would have lost 20 per cent of its take-off power, experts said.

Others speculated that ice pellets in the heavy rain falling at the time of the crash might have caused icing on the wings, drastically reduc-ing their lift. The aircraft stalled and nose-dived after failing to climb above 400ft. A commercial flight due to take off minutes later was delayed until the storm passed.

This was a publicity stunt that went wrong because of bad adult judgment," Arthur Wolk, an aviation consultant, told NBC television. "Her mother says she was an aviator. She wasn't an aviator. She



Jessica's mother. Lisa Blair Hathaway, with her daughter Jasmine, aged three, before flying to the crash site

Walesa wins his pension battle

FROM REUTER

LECH WALESA was granted a pension for life yesterday for his services as a former President of Poland - paving the way for him to leave his £164a-month shipyard electrician's job which he resumed last

A vote by the lower house of parliament will also mean lifetime pensions for General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the former Communist military @ongman, and Ryszard aczorowski, the last President, now in exile in London.

The net pension of former Presidents will be about £1,052 a month, the same as the present President's basic pay. Mr Walesa, 52, returned on April 2 to register for the job at the Gdansk shipyard where in the Soviet bloc's first free trade union, which went on to topple

Communist rule in 1989. Mr Walesa is not hard up but the authorities are pressing him to pay taxes on about \$1 million (£640,000) he received in 1989 from an American film studio, which Mr Walesa says he is not liable to

pay Tax officials in Gdansk, Mr Walesa's Baltic coast hometown, said this week they could not establish whether he had to pay the tax demand or not and passed the decision to the Finance Ministry.

The Nobel prizewinner had made clear that once a pension was approved, he would give up his shipyard job — he repairs electric trolleys - to devote himself full-time to

Mr Walesa has promised to help the debt-ridden yard to attract foreign investment.

Kim keeps power in Korea poll

MANAGEMEN.

Seoul: The ruling party of Kim Young Sam has managed to garner enough seats in South Korean elections to put together a working majority in the National Assembly.

Final tallies give the ruling New Korea Party 139 seats ll shy of a majority - allowing it to look for partners to forge a majority. The biggest loser was opposition leader Kim Dae Jung, whose National Congress for New Politics ended with 79 seats, below its goal of 100 seats. (AFP)

Tamil boats sunk

Colombo: The Sri Lankan Navy sank two Tamil Tiger boats that attacked ships in Colombo port at dawn, and two divers were killed as they swam through the northern entrance to the port.

Freemen give in

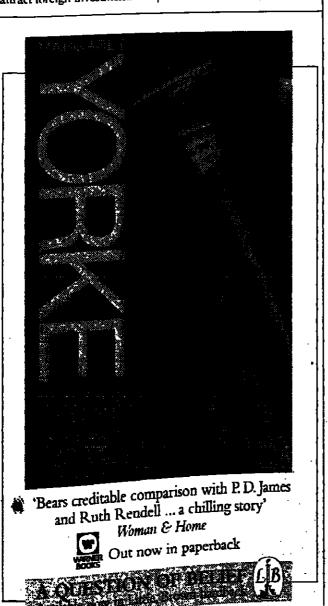
New York: Two of the antigovernment Freemen protesters holed up in a Montana ranch - Ebert Stanton, 23, and his mother Agnes, 52 — surrendered to FBI agents on their 19th day under siege.

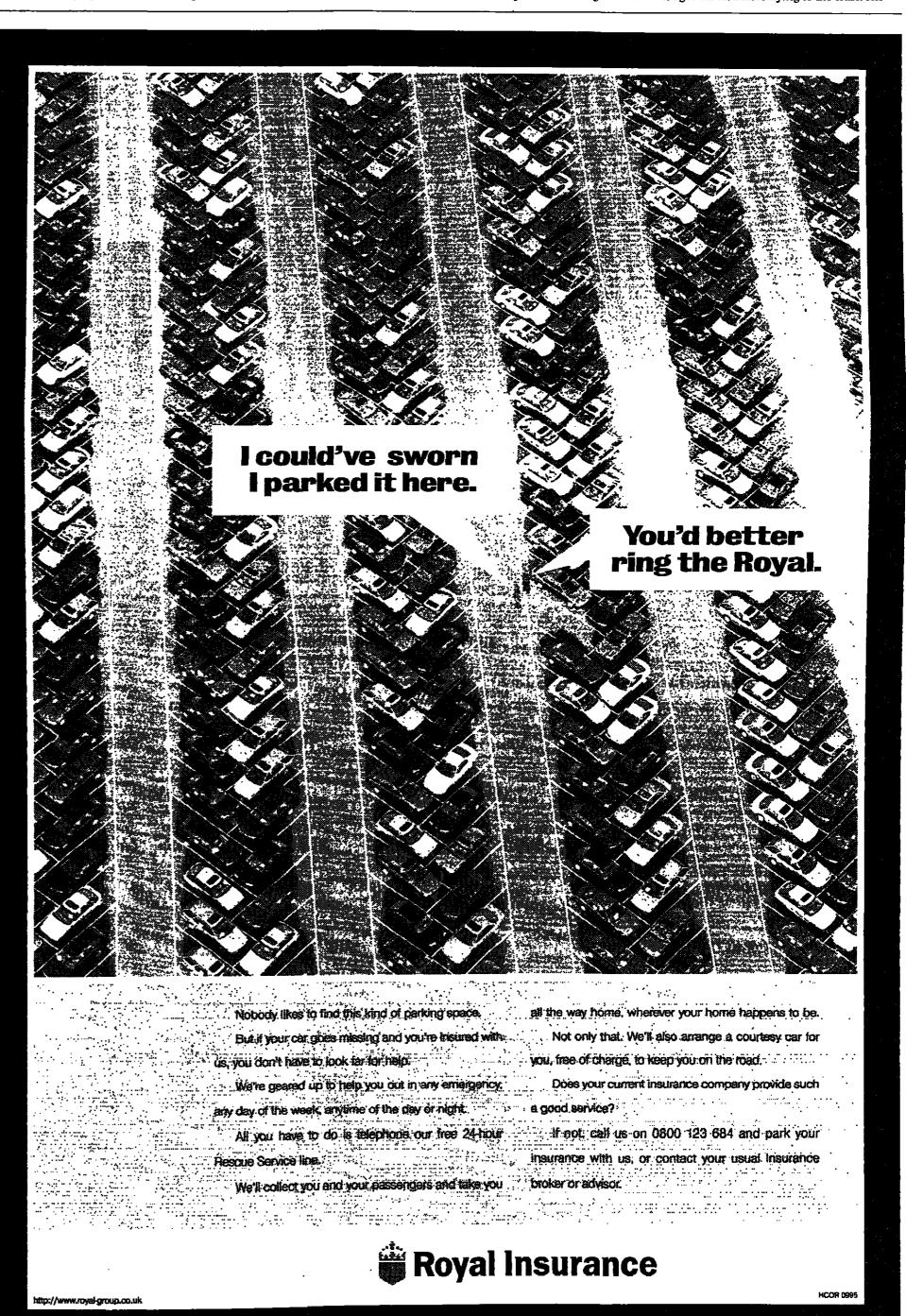
Well tragedy

Hanoi: Three people, including a boy aged 11 and his brother, died overcome by a lack of oxygen at the bottom of a 25st well when they climbed down trying to save a chicken that had fallen in. (AFP)

Guru charged

Delhi: Chandraswami, a Hindu guru who counts heads of state and international celebrities among his acolytes, was charged with cheating an expatriate Indian businessman of £65,800 in 1988. (AFP)





'Imaginative' Tatyana Yeltsin tames hostile press as President's campaign gains ground

Papa's girl charms critics

WHEN President Yeltsin announced recently that he had appointed his youngest daughter to help to run his reelection campaign, critics in the Kremlin scoffed that the old man had allowed his heart to rule his head.

As Tatyana Yeltsin recalled in a recent interview, the first response by senior officials was to try to placate her by assigning menial tasks organising youth projects and women's groups - to keep her out of the day-to-day running of the campaign.

"It was very difficult at the start, no one took me seriousiy." she told the weekly magazine Ogonyok, adding that the Russian leader's oldest and most trusted advisers still regarded her as a child.

world of their own criminals.

AFTER years of being subjected to Western police serials, regarded as far too tame by most Russian viewers, Muscovites will soon be

able to watch a series devoted to the brutal

of the Law, will be a co-production between

The new police drama, called In the Name



mathematician and mother of two forced herself into the reelection team, she has earned the respect of many in the Kremlin for her quick mind

One Russian journalist who met her said that the President's daughter, who until recently was employed calculating the trajectory of spaceships, was learning her new job fast.

"It was obvious that she

said. "She kept referring to Mr Yelisin as papa, but it was also clear that she is far more imaginative than most of the

advisers around him and is an asset to the campaign."

One of her first initiatives was to halt the regular formal meetings between the Kremlin leader and editors of Russia's leading publications.

Nikita Mikhalkov, the Oscar-winning Rus-sian director, and some of Hollywood's best producers and writers. The series, which

follows the exploits of an honest detective

fighting corruption, was proposed after docu-mentary-style films on the mafia were consid-

leaders to become involved in politics, particularly women. suggesting one-to-one ses-sions instead. The move has in Tatyana's case, both Aleksei Dyachenko, her huscontributed to the extremely band, and Naina Yeltsin, her mother, want her home to look after Gleb, her six-Tales of the Muscovite mafia

month-old son. However, many pundits have drawn the comparison between Tatyana Yeltsin and Claude Chirac, the daughter of Jacques Chirac, the French President, who masterminded his successful election campaign and is now his press secretary at the Elysée Palace.

press, which only a few months ago was frequently

She has been credited with

attracting an increasingly

wide body of supporters to

her father's campaign, thanks to her broad array of contacts

and the fact that she has no

It is too early to say whether

Mr Yeltsin's favourité daugh-

ter, who has inherited her

mother's homely looks but

her father's stubborn charac-

to launch her own political career. It is highly unusual for

family members of Russian

ter, will use her sudden fame

real political enemies.

hostile to his leadership.



Father figure: Boris Yeltsin exploits his image as a family man

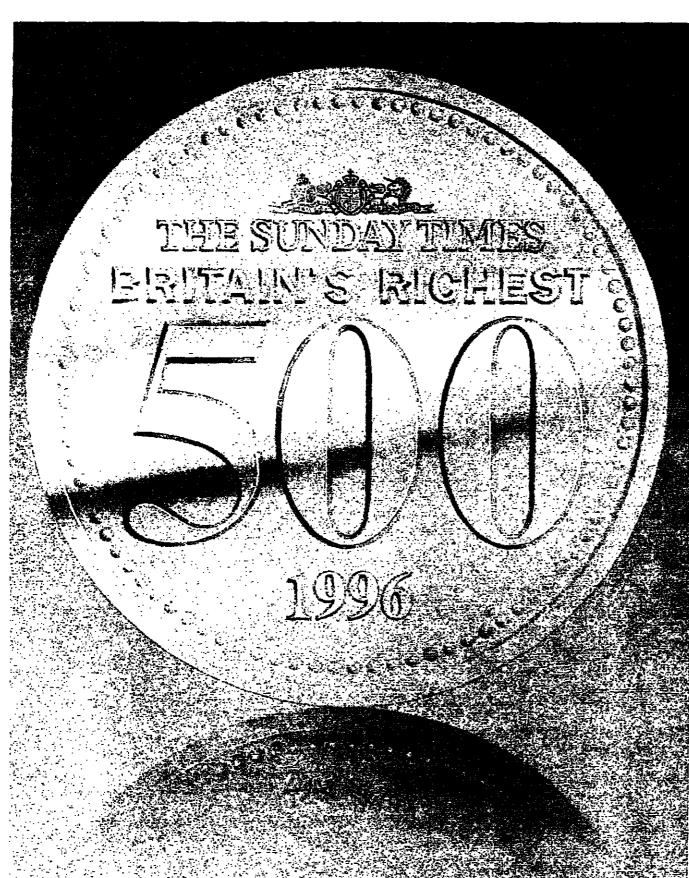
Women give lift to hopes of politicians

THE voting habits of Russian women may have a decisive effect in the forthcoming presidential elections, but predicting their tastes in politicians has always been problematic.

To pinpoint which of the candidates appeals most to female voters. Komsomolskaya Pravda, the Moscow daily newspaper. recently asked women in the capital which leading politician they would refuse to share a lift with alone. Not surprisingly, the least popu-lar choice was Vladimir Zhirinosvky. the ultra-nationalist firebrand who. in spite of a recent charm offensive to woo women voters, is still best remembered for beating a woman deputy in parliament last year. About 27 per cent of the respondents said they would not go near a lift if he was standing beside it. President Yeltsin, who has been emphasising his role as a devoted husband and father, did better, with only 8 per cent of women refusing the "lift challenge" with him. Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist front-run-

ner, was marginally more popular. Those who fared best were Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, Yegor Gaidar, the former Russian Prime Minister, and Aleksandr Lebed, the burly former paratrooper.

THE SUNDAY TIMES



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Mother suspected of Paris murders

FROM SUSAN BELL

THE architect. Marguerite Zakrzewski, found hanged on Tuesday with her murdered husband and two sons in the wealthy Paris suburb of Sceaux, became the main suspect in the case yesterday as police received the first post-mortem examination results showing that she was the last to die.

Investigators believe that the father and elder son were killed on Sunday night while the mother and younger son did not die until the next day. Traces of drugs were found in the bodies. More definitive post-mortem examination results are expected over the weekend as police check re-ports that Mme Zakrzewski visited Sceaux on Monday.

The bodies of the family were discovered by a school friend of the couple's elder Zakrzewski house when neither brother turned up for classes after the Easter weekend. Like his father Piotr, 48, also an architect. Adam was discovered in his bed, virtually decapitated. Both had apparently been killed while

The body of the younger son Arthur, 12, was discovered close to his mother. He had been strangled and hanged. The family were all wearing pyjamas except for Mme Zakrzewski, who was elegantly dressed. Police said last night that her clothing was without bloodstains and that her body showed no sign of

No blood was found near the bodies or anywhere in the house, which police say had been cleaned after

Spaniards hunt for drug case fugitive

FROM DOMINIQUE SEARLE IN GIBRALTAR

SPANISH Civil Guards were searching yesterday for a Spaniard who escaped from a boat chase for suspected drug smugglers which ended with a

Spanish helicopter crashing into the sea, killing one of the The authorities in Cádiz said they had been unable to trace more than 1,300lb of cannabis which two men have allegedly confessed to unloading on a near beach near La Linea, the town bordering

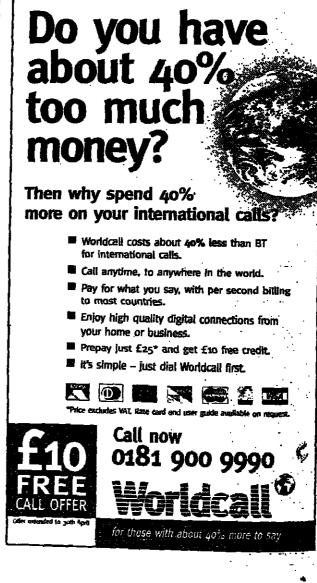
Gibraltar. The men - 5-Gibraltarian and a Moroccan - were held after the chase. Spain has accused Britain of failing to stop drug and tobacco trafficking from Gibraltar. Royal Gibraltar Police confirmed that the owner of a rigid inflatable boat who was

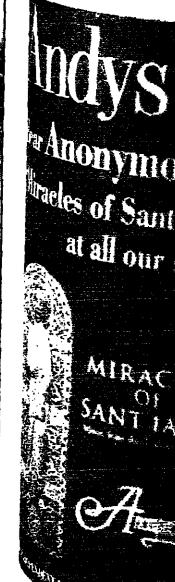
arrested in the operation has been released on bail. up yesterday as people crossing to and from Gibraltan Brana, the regional Governor, after the incident. The Rock's trading community is conare sustained - it was taking up to an hour just to walk into Gibraltar, and nearly four to drive out - tourists and

That would quickly set off an economic crisis for Gibraltar, which has already suffered from the reduced presence of the Ministry of Defence. In ten years the military's contribution to the local economy has fallen from about 60 per cent of the total to 6 per cent. Another 700 jok. are planned to go over the next

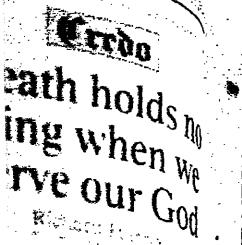
shoppers will stop coming

from Spain.









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MARINE APP



OPINION

Sad spectacle on sawdust: can't we do something to revive our 200-year-old circus tradition?



THEATRE

The effects of war on humans, and a non-human, are explored in Martin Sherman's Some Sunny Day





■ BASE NOTES

Crazy for You, the musical based on Gershwin's best tunes, goes on national tour



BASE NOTES

Gloria Estefan will supply the anthem for this summer's Olympic Games in Atlanta

Then I come to write my indispensable reference tome, Bad Nights Out in Norfolk, I shall certainly include last Tuesday's dismal débâcle. It had seemed such a good wheeze at the time: take the kids to see a "traditional" circus before the forces of political correctness finally succeed in expurgating all performing animals from British life. But, like most of my good wheezes, it proved to be a horrible

We entered a field outside Norwich. We handed the best part of £40 to Chipperfield's Circus. We watched four youths do a skipping-rope routine that could be managed by reasonably sprightly pensioners. This turned out to be the first act. We watched a man attempt to start a cardboard taxi until his trousers fell down. The programme claimed that he was a clown. If he was a clown, I am the

Patriarch of Constantinople. Where were the fire-eaters, knife-throwers, sword-swallowers. death-defying high-wire stuntmen.

What we need is bread for circuses mind-boggling contortionists? Per-haps it was their night off. True, three glum characters produced a few elementary spins on a trapeze. But there was nothing worthy of an "ooh" or an "aah" here.

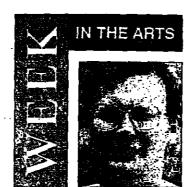
In any case, any audience reaction was drowned by a raucous stream of noise from a four-piece band. "At least it's live music," I yelled at my wife. Whereupon she shook her head and yelled back: "I'm not wearing a watch." Enigmatic woman, my wife.

What of the animals? A woman brought on a few horses and made them stand on their hind legs. A man brought on some oddly docile tigers. Guess what? They stood on their hind legs too. Somebody else brought on three sea lions and threw hoops at them. Sometimes the hoops looped over the sea lions's heads; sometimes they missed altogether. Amazing

As a grand finale, three boys did wheelies on pushbikes. "I can do that," said my younger son. Not quite the gob-smacked reaction for which a father hopes after he has spent £40 treating his family to the circus. But a fair comment, I fear. This show had all the dangerous allure of a knitting pattern.

What has gone wrong with our circuses? You don't have to be very old to recall the era when Bertram Mills and Billy Smart toured the country with hundreds of performers: human and beastly. Now the British circus is reduced to this: a damp squib in a damp field outside Norwich. Smell of the greasepaint? Roar of the crowd?

You must be joking.
Some claim that British circus effectively died in the early 1980s, when many local councils encouraged by the RSPCA banned animal acts from their



RICHARD MORRISON

land, alleging that the training was cruel. Clearly, the "breaking in" of any performing animal is not a job for soft hearts or liberals. and in some parts of the world the methods can be grotesque. In

Moscow a few years ago I asked a have now been thoroughly out-top Russian circus boss how he classed by our former pupils. achieved the unique feat of getting chickens to dance to Swan Lake. His answer may have lost something in the translation, but it definitely involved saucepans of boiling water.

ritish circuses, however, B have never stooped to these horrific practices, and they claim to be victims of hypocrisy in a society that happily watches gruelling equestrian events - or, for that matter, approves the politically expedient slaughter of 30,000 healthy cows each week. It is a fair point. But actually I don't think the decline of the British circus has much to do with the animal ban. The sad fact is that, as with practically every other physical recreation, the British taught the world to play the game but

classed by our former pupils. Abroad, circus is considered

chic, exciting, even intellectually stimulating. The Canadian-based Cirque du Soleil has redefined the form as vast acrobatic ballets. Russian circus clowns, who think nothing of interpolating Shakespearean skits into their acts, have achieved cult followings across the world. So has Archaos, the wild motorbike-and-chainsaw circus from France. In Monte Carlo, glamorous circus festivals are held under royal patronage.

In short, foreign companies are nurturing the circus equivalent of Disneyworld, while ours - those that still exist - appear to be stuck in Butlin's, circa 1955. Consequently, our best acrobat-entertainers are going abroad; that's the only way they can earn a living. Yes, I know that we have several small,

successful "physical theatre" groups. But what I am talking about are spectacular, populist entertainments, not art-house specialities. Are we really content that the country which produced Chap-lin, Monty Python, Benny Hill and Peter Sellers cannot now compete with the French and the Canadians in the field of surreal visual humour? Good grief, I knew things were bad, but I didn't realise they were that bad.

So here is a populist challenge for the Arts Council. Let's resuscitate the 200-year-old tradition of British circus, both as a vibrant art form and as a potentially huge money-spinner. The lottery was surely invented for tasks like this. and a little seed money spent on top-quality training and equipment would be quickly recouped. Let's put the "ooh" factor back into our cultural life. Remind the world that nobody performs better on sawdust than the British. And never again allow the Greatest Show on Earth to disintegrate into a bad night out in Norfolk.

BASE NOTES

has been chosen as the officia

theme song for football's forth-

coming European Champion-

ships, while Estelan's new

single, Reach, is to be the

anthem of the Summer Olym-

pics, which open in Atlanta on

■ THE Canadian star Celine

ning the 1988 Eurovision Song

Contest singing in French for Switzerland. This year's con-

test sees the cross-cultural

process gathering pace. Not

only will Britain's entry. Och

Aah ... Just A Little Bit, be

performed by the Australian

Gina G. but the French song,

a Celtic ballad titled Diwanit

Bugale, will be sung by Karen

Matheson, lead singer of the

Scottish band Capercaillie,

and Elaine Morgan, from

Wales. The Eurovision contest

takes place in Oslo on May 18.

Dion began the fashion, win-

Gershwin on tour

Only the alien is out of place

B recht says somewhere that war is a weird physical field that turns physical field that turns everything in its ambit topsyturvy. Courage, caution, honesty, trickery: whatever works effectively in peacetime becomes self-defeating in war. Decent people are transformed into monsters or behave like lunatics, and 2ft-high orange blobs from space are besofted with a belly-dancer. magicked into

elegant young about dressed like T.E. Lawrence.

J. 134

right. All Brecht did not man, author of this quaint, diverting play. But the behaviour of the characters in Some Sunny Day supports Brecht-ian physics. They are human particles impelled by the prospect of disaster to demonstrate Heisenberg's uncertainty

principle. The physical field is Cairo in July 1942 Rommel is expected to break through British lines at any moment. Our embassy is burning documents, which is why bits of burnf marked "top secret" keep landing on people's heads. Jews are hunting visas that will get them into Palestine. Rumours abound, branding just about everyone in Roger Michell's

fine cast as a Nazi spy. None of them is that. But they are all acting as if their temperatures have jumped to 104. Sara Kestel-man, who pretends to be a Russian grand-duchess but is probably a Polish Jew on the

recht says somewhere were a doodlebug. Cheryl that war is a weird Campbell also spends a lot of time screeching and dashing feverishly about William Dudley's shabby-grand Islamic interior, only to recollect herself, and explain in vicarage-lawn tones that she is having a "mad scene". But then she has good reason for desperation. for her diplomat husband is

Emily, as

Campbell's character is called, ends up sticking pins into a model of Some Sunny Day Hampstead the dancer.

while Horatio, say anything about orange her husband, ends up ending blobs. That is a detail gratu- Emily. He is played by a grave with a blend of subtle authority and self-satirising humour I had not realised was in his range. In peacetime, Horatio is, as he primly says, "a novelist of at least minor importance". Wartime has turned him into a murderous monomaniac, comically unable to see that the wildest excesses of paranoia and greed

are even mildly abnormal.

The play's message is that there is more in heaven and earth than is dreamt of in Horatian philosophy. English emotion turns out to be violent. And earthly emotion in general would probably seem remarkable to any visiting Martian. This is not mere rhetoric, either. Perhaps I am giving away secrets Sherman would prefer me to suppress; but here goes. There is a space intruder in Some Sunny Day, and he is indeed pleasantly astonished by human feeling. Rupert Everett's Robin may

back Antipodean journalist, but he actually belongs to a species that can read minds, twist metal, and do other things which explain why Uri Geller gets "special thanks" in the programme. He is also sufficiently moved by hearing

able idea on Sherman's part.

BENEDICT



"Human [and one inhuman] particles impelled by the prospect of disaster to demonstrate Heisenberg's uncertainty principle": Sara Kestelman, Rupert Everett and Corin Redgrave in a scene from Martin Sherman's Some Sunny Day

18 April - 15 June THE ALMEDA THEATRE COMPANY Mozart and having an affair with the genial young soldier played by David Bark-Jones to recognise that our race has its inner strengths too. It is a good performance, but a question-

OLIVIER AWARD

Is it wise to give a play so eloquent about human unpredictability a twist that lifts it out of the realm of the human? Does not sci-fi fantasy, especially fantasy that turns cutesy at the end, compromise what the play has to say about reality? The play left me in an accepting, upbeat mood, but I did wonder. I really did.



summer, thanks to the world of sport. The Simply Red star's track. We're in this Together, Moliere's Richard Wilbur any: Diane Bull, Patsy Byrne, Emma Chambers, Derek Crewe, John Franklyn-Robbins, Gabrielle Hamilton, Susannab Harker, Tom Hollander, David Lyon, Ian McDiarmid, Bobdan Poraj and James Wallace. Direction: Jonathan Kent Design: Rob Howell Music Jonathan Dove Tickets 0171 359 4404 Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, Islington, London N1 1TA Supposed by THE LAURA PELS KOUNDATION

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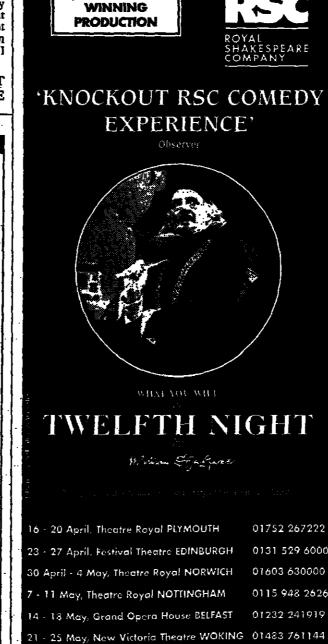
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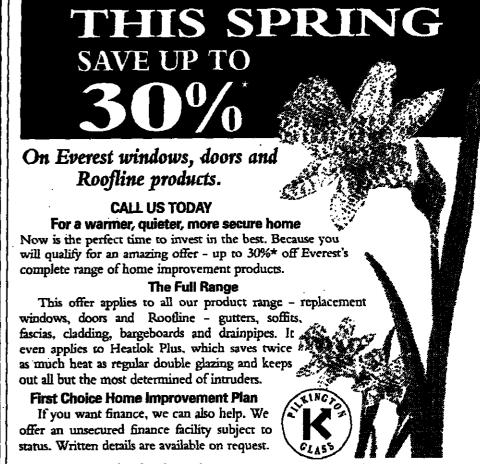
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Anne-Sophie Mutter violin Lambert Orkis piano Barisican Celebrity Recital Brahms Scherzo for violin and piano in C minor Bartók Sonata for violin and piano No 2 Beetheven Sonata No for volin and plano, Op 30 Sarasate Airs bohemens 20 Wienlauski Légende in G minor, Op 17 Sarasate Carmen Fantasy 05 - 230

Sat 20 Apr 7.30pm

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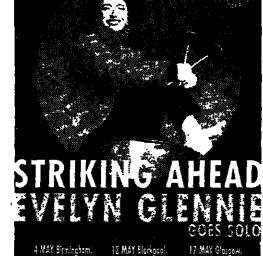
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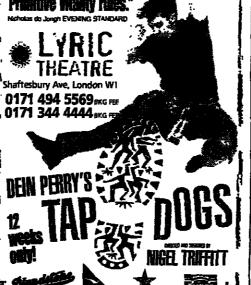
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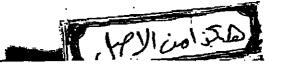
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MUSICALS

Back in his Salad Days: Julian Slade recalls the first performance of his hit show



■ RISING STAR

At the age of 14, Glasgow-born Iain Robertson finds that he is Britain's newest film star





CHOICE

From Philip Schofield to Sibelius: see our new guide to top shows in Weekend, pages 12 and 13



ON MONDAY Terry Gilliam

talks about the making of Twelve Monkeys. and working with one Bruce Willis

Jeremy Kingston talks to Julian Slade about 40 years of Salad Days

Evergreen returns

wenty years ago, Sal-ad Days, the musical with the magic piano that makes people dance, was revived in the West End to celebrate the twentieth (in fact, twenty-second) anniversary of its first appearance there. Next week at the Vaudeville the fortieth anniversary (ie, the forty-second) is likewise commemorated, and perhaps some far-planning impresario is already thinking ahead to the year 2016.

Julian Slade, co-author with Dorothy Reynolds of the book and lyrics, and sole composer of the music, will then be in his mid-eighties. By that time he may be unable to move around his Chelsea basement flat because the scores of ornaments and mementoes. already populating every level surface, will have invaded all corners of the carpet.

There is even a piano on Slade's piano, but it is a miniature reproduction of the one in the 1954 show, which in its day was the longest running musical in the world, outlasting New York's Oklahoma! and London's Chu-Chin-Chow and The Boy Friend, the other homegrown, tune-packed musical

of the period, The story behind the show also has more than a touch of theatrical magic: a production planned to last three weeks at

Big break: Landing the lead role in Gillies MacKinnon's award-winning film Small Faces, a tale of growing up in 1960s Glasgow gangland

Age: 14, ie, not old enough to which carries a 15 certificate.

Day job: Full-time student at the Sylvia Young Theatre

What started the ball rolling? Son of a Glasgow audio-visual technician. he had no thoughts of becoming an actor until he read a comment in his prima-

School in London.

apritude for drama."

Profession: Actor

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament IAIN ROBERTSON

ry school report when he was II: "This boy shows a special

Story so far: "I decided to take the hint and joined a local amateur company in Govan. My first play was No Mean City. when I was 12." A year later he set up his own theatre company.

Gust (Glasgow Under-Sixteens Theatre), writing, directing and acting in its first production. The Scapplie. Since moving to London, he has chalked up a respectable list of television credits. When he auditioned for Small Faces, he almost lost the role because of fears his voice would break before the film was completed. His impersonation of Popeye clinched the deal. Worries? "Fear of being typecast as a 'nice wee Scots boy'. When I was offered the part of a mentally-disturbed Irish boy who murders a policewoman in Kavanagh QC. I jumped at it." And in the future? "I want to develop my writing and directing. If can't wait to mount another Gust production. I'd also like to set up a trust fund to help other youngsters explore their artistic

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and bitter revenge.

ROS DRINKWATER

abilities. There's loads of talent in Glasgow."

the Bristol Old Vic transfers to London and runs for six years. "I was their resident composer." Slade explains, "writing incidental music for the productions, and I had collaborated with Dorothy, who was a member of the company, on two Christmas shows, which had been pretty successful. So Denis Carey, who ran the Bristol Old Vic in those days, asked us to write a summer revue, and the first thing I

wrote was Cleopatra.
"But after I'd written the number, Denis changed his mind. He thought it would be better to have a musical play. particularly as we now had a title. It was suggested to us by the barmaid at the theatre. The company had done Antony and Cleopatra as part of the spring season, and she had heard Cleopatra say, 'My salad days, when I was green in judgment. When she told us she thought it would make a good title, we all said, 'Olive, you're a genius! Now we've just got to think what it's going

to be about," What he and Dorothy Reynolds created was a story of two people, just out of university, who are not sure what to do next. "We wanted to write a fun show for the existing company. But we were very conscious that there were a lot of young people around - and I was only 23 - who were

being pressurised by their families, and I'm sure that's where the first ideas came from. The idea of Timothy being pressurised to find himself something to do' and Jane being pressurised to make a good marriage'. They decide to solve this for her by marrying each other, because they've been bosom pals at university. and find a job which is nothing to do with their parents. Then in walks the tramp with the piano. He offers them E7 a week to look after it for a

out to make everybody dance." The original cast were virtually unknown outside their local audience, but Ned Sherrin's production offers two stars, Kit and the Widow. Kit Hesketh-Harvey plays all Timothy's uncles, including Uncle Zed, who arrives on a flying saucer, and the man in

month. And the piano turns

the dress-shop. "We've turned him into another uncle, so that's a slight change in the plot." The Widow, otherwise Richard Sisson, plays the nonspeaking part of Troppo, the clown who guards the piano.

Does he get the chance to play?
"Oh, yes. That's the great
difference in this production:
the piano works. In the original the keyboard was a dummy and it was all mimed in the pit. And by some amazing chance, not only Richard but David Morton, who is the tramp, and Simon Connolly, who's Timothy, can also play the piano, and they do."

And suddenly everyone starts dancing. "Look at me! Oh. look at me!" Sometimes a magic piano is not needed if a tune is catchy enough.

 Salad Days opens on Thursday
as the Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, London WC2 (0171-836 9987)

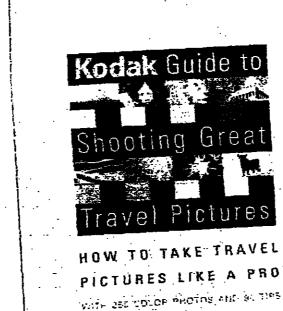


Julian Slade on Salad Days: "We were very conscious that there were a lot of young people around - and I was only 23 - who were being pressurised by their families, and I'm sure that's where the first ideas came from

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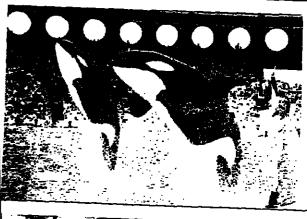
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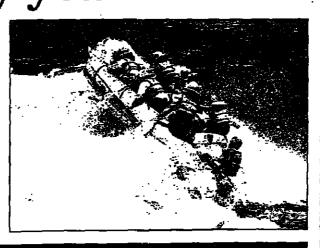
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The Tory party needs a stronger, more conservative manifesto to allay anxieties and rally support, says John Redwood resent the damage done to our fishing

obert Pecl's Tamworth Manifesto rallied Conservatives. It gave them a programme for reform. It released the energies of British manufacturing for a generation. It defended what was best in the previous decades.

The Conservatives' manifesto for this most recent by-election offered no such vision. It was rejected by the electors. It leaves the party needing a new impetus to

carry it to victory in the general election. There is a temptation for both politicians and journalists to misinterpret byelections. Opposition parties, when they win, claim it proves they will win the country. Governing parties, defending and losing, say these results are of no significance, merely a protest vote.

The truth is somewhere between the two. The Staffordshire South East byelection does not prove Labour is bound to win. Nor should it be brushed too readily aside by the Government. This is no longer midterm. People's worries should be taken seriously. The seats lost in byelections in the last Parliament did not prove difficult to win back in the general election, but that general election confirmed a loss of support in many marginal seats: 1992 brought the majority down

with a bump.
It is time for some soul searching by the Conservatives. What does the party have to do to re-establish its winning ways? How can it set out a ringing declaration.

How to win back Tamworth

like Peel's at Tamworth? Can it fashion a and regulations should be cut back, policy to the temper and needs of the age?

Electors sense that at home and abroad politicians are not measuring up to the magnitude of the problems. The economy is recovering from the early 1990s slump. but so far it has proved a voteless recovery. People still distrust the state of trade, fearing that their jobs may be the next to go in some great corporate restructuring. They still find selling their

houses a difficult, painful business. They sense the whirlwind of change that global trade and new technology are unleashing but feel their leaders have let them down, not explaining it enough or

helping them enough.
It was such a time of change that fathered the Tamworth declaration. New manufacturers felt throttled by tariffs and taxes. They welcomed Peel's onslaught on these impediments to prosperity. Today. the Government should explain why we welcome the new technology. It should

restate the case for free trade and for taking a global view of our future. The English language and our enthusi-asm for computers and communications equip us well for this new world. Rules opportunities grasped. A crusade to raise educational standards is needed. It requires tough decisions on styles and standards of teaching. These will be so much the easier for explaining that there is a purpose, that our children have something to look forward to. By thinking globally and excelling at English and computing we can capture the jobs and incomes we need. If we want and expect one of the highest living standards in the world, we must work effectively and supply the goods and services the new age expects. The Government should explain

People feel let down by the tax increases of recent years. Conservatives have to show that this year's reductions are the start of a programme to lower the burden on the majority. Tax cutting is a moral crusade. It leaves people with more freedom to choose. A prosperous economy trading with the world is the way to cut welfare and taxes together; as people gain jobs they shed income support.

how we can do that.

People are worried that this Government is destroying cherished institutions. In particular they see it as no friend of the National Health Service. At a time of liberalise divorce, while no steps are taken considerable uncertainty about jobs and family incomes, people need even more reassurance that if they were to fall ill they would be looked after. It is no good saying that there have been more operations and more treatments, if what people see is the closure of their local hospital and worries about the availability of beds at the district hospital. We would all find it reassuring if beds and hospitals stayed open unless there was general agreement in the local community that the hospital had outlived its working life.

Conservative Government, at a time of change, has to tell people that some changes are necessary. irresistible, even for the better. It should try to prevent any other change, to leave people with some stability in their lives. Many voters found the closure of Bart's Hospital, and the rumoured threats to Admiralty Arch and Greenwich, unacceptable. Why need these things change when so much else has to? They find it odd that, at a time of all too many families breaking down, the Government should choose to introduce proposals which

to restore the married man's tax allowance. Wouldn't that reassure, by showing that Conservatives still think two parents have a role together in bringing up young The Government needs to define some

lines which it is prepared to defend. Which of our inherited and cherished institutions is the Government committed to supporting? We need to know, so that we can rally behind a sense of belonging to a community with a past and a future. Above all we need to know how the Government proposes to build a Europe of nation states out of the Lego of the Community's institutions. Many in the

nation agree that this is what we want. We want trade and friendship, not common overnment.
Many have been horrified to realise just how much power has already ebbed away from us. They were surprised that we needed permission to require seat belts in coaches for schoolchildren. Many have been horrified that the EU can ban our beef for sale anywhere in the world although many customers and the Gov-

The Government needs to show our European partners that we keep our word. We want to influence Europe for the better. We have ideas that could lower the dole queues and get business moving again. That is more important to most people in Europe than the next steps towards a centralised state. We need to

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industry by the common fisheries policy.

show that Europe, as well as Britain, will prosper only if it opens windows on the world. We need to trade with America and to swap technology with Asia. We should do more to help the new democracies to the east of our continent to prosper by pulling down the barriers to fair exchange. We need to show that there is a better way than the Franco-German big government scheme, which is destroying jobs and worrying many people.

When Defoe visited Tamworth he reported that it was "a fine pleasant

trading town, eminent for good ale and good company, of the middling sort". Such a Tamworth still speaks for a Britain that can prosper gently by thinking globally. Tamworth can be won back by the Conservatives at the general election. To do so will require a stronger manifesto than was served up there in the last few weeks. It will require a manifesto which touches the uncertainties and worries of electors about their own futures and the

Swan of Avon, son of Rome

Margarita Stocker defends her claim that Shakespeare was a secret Catholic

from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon. to sports centres in seaside towns, the of Macbeth than even the most fervent Bardolator could possibly want?

No doubt some future pundit will marvel at this phenomenon and conclude that in the Nineties we flocked to the Scottish play and to Braveheart because we had fallen in love with Scotland. Alas. the reason is more prosaic: the Department for Education has decreed that every schoolchild in the land must study Macbeth, and this captive audience is the answer to any cash-strapped theatre's prayer. We are being force-fed Macheth - with or without madwomen urinating onstage - simply because of the commercial dictates of historical circumstance.

To mention this rudely realistic fact may offend those who jealously guard the Bard's reputation as a universal genius. untrammelled by time and place. Yet, albeit rremendously gifted, he also was a man of his time: an ambitious, balding. bisexual playwright from a provincial town in Reformation England.

Consequently, when it was reported on Tuesday that I had found in Love's Labours Lost new evidence that he was secretly a Roman Catholic, another Shakespeare scholar dismissed my article as "rubbish" because the play "still works on stage", and if Shakespeare's intentions are a mystery we should leave it that way. The fact is that scholars have long suspected that there is more to

this seemingly light romantic comedy than meets the untrained eye. Hitherto, we have not even been sure how many apostrophes to put in the title. Now, perhaps, we can do better than John Major, who fluffed a jibe at the opposition benches when he referred to some play called "Love Labour Lost".

Like the actor who, touring in Macbeth. furiously told a noisy audience of schoolchildren to "shut the f = up". Shakespeare was also at the mercy of historical circumstance.

Thirty years before Shakespeare's birth. England was officially declared Protestant, and 60 years after his death the Government was still executing Catholic subversives. In Elizabethan England, the sizeable minority of recusants who held to the Old Faith risked the threat of prosecution, financial and corporal punishment, and - since Catholics were automatically suspected of treason - even death. Since religion was the crucial issue of the time, whether one attended evensong on a Sunday was a matter for beady-eyed local surveillance. And such evidence College. Oxford.

ave you ever wondered why, as we have suggests that the local authorities were very unhappy about the

> We know that William's mother. Mary Arden, was a Catholic, and despite strenuous attempts to conceal his religion. her husband was nevertheless accused of recusancy - accurately, since he left to posterity a written confession of faith

inspired by Jesuit teachings.

The playwright's marriage to Anne Hathaway may have involved a Catholic ceremony, and it was said that he "died a Papisi": a statement often dismissed because it was made after the Restoration. But Shakespeare's younger daughter did nor die until 1662, so family and local knowledge were hardly remote from the facts. His elder daughter was herself prosecuted for recusancy in 1606.

A young man determined to make a successful career as a playwright-actor-manager was compelled, if a Catholic, to conceal his faith. He was merely joining the ranks of other crypto-Catholics, such as the musician William Byrd, whose livelihood depended upon aristocratic patronage and a royal court in which virulent Protestant politicians so often

called the tune. Moreover, the commercial theatre in London pandered to cheap and a crowd-pleasing Protestant jin-cheerful effici-Shakespeare goism which Shakespeare rarereveals to us ly bothered to satisfy - unlike his rival Thomas Dekker, who

significant fact in his life

the most

Indeed, several of Shakespeare's plays suggest a basic emotional commitment to Catholicism. The Ghost in Hamlet, for instance, presumes a Catholic belief in purgatory.

made a career out of it.

Even in a play of unabashed Tudor propaganda. Henry VII (mostly written. in fact, by John Fletcher), the most sympathetic characters are Cardinal Wolsey and the Catholic queen Mary whom Henry had divorced.

Love's Labours Lost has been an enigma for 400 years because it is a cryptic protest against the persecution of Catholics. Clever enough to evade censorship and prosecution, the play is nevertheless packed with references to religious controversy and political figures that are instantly recognisable to a contemporary audience. And if we too have at last got the message, then Shakespeare has revealed to us what was probably the single most significant fact in his life.

The next time you watch an actor exploring the personal angst of Macbeth, remember that that play is shot through with references to the Catholic Gunpowder Plot. Never mind The Scottish Play we should call it The Bonfire Night Play.

Dr Stocker is a fellow of St Hilda's

But what will Labour do?

In the first of six articles, Anatole Kaletsky begins the

most detailed scrutiny of

Opposition policy so far

sually it comes between the aubergine caviar and the salmon en papillote, though sometimes it can be staved off until the moment of decision between coffee and carnomile tea. Sooner or later, however, the dreaded question has to be faced by anyone who claims to know about British politics these days:
"Yes, but what will they do?"

The dinner-party consensus is no longer interested in whether Labour will win. Everyone knows that John Major could pull off a surprise victory, since nothing in politics can be ruled out. But beyond that there is little of interest to sav about who will be the next Prime Minister. The conversation thus quickly turns from "who" to "what".

What will Blair do, then? Will he raise taxes? Will he really take single mothers

off welfare? Can he restore the ency of the National Health Service? Will he sign up to the social chapter and the single currency? Or will he waste all his time on tinkering with the House

Lords?" All eyes turn to the putative pundit: "Er, ឃា . . . :

It was time to do some work. With only a year to go before the general election, it seemed surprising how little was known about Labour's plans for power. even among the chattering classes. We all know that Labour will reform the House of Lords and create a Scottish assembly. But beyond that, what unequivocal, on-the-record commitments has Labour really made?

I acquired the complete works of Tony Blair, Gordon Brown et al — speeches, policy papers and so on — a tower of paper 2ft high. And that was without such semiofficial pronouncements as The Blair Revolution by Peter Mandelson or influential outside contributions such as Will Hutton's The State We're In.

By the time I went to see Mr Blair and his colleagues before Easter, I could recite a dozen blueprints for restoring the "industrial base", the "infrastructure base", the "skill base", the "science base" and even the "academic-research base" (the last three all in a single paragraph of Mr Mandelson's book).

Contemplating this mountain of verbiage - which Labour is desperately trying to computerise to allow instant responses to Tory disinformation campaigns - I realised that a lack of policies was the last thing Labour could be accused of. Indeed. I doubt if so many detailed plans have ever been produced before an election by any opposition party - or governing party for that matter. (It is odd how rarely people ask what on earth John Major would

do with five more years in power.) Why. tnen, tne near universal belief that Labour has nothing definite to offer beyond Mr Blair's grin? There are at least three reasons, apart from natural reluctance to read Labour's broken-backed

orose. KALETSKY'S Firstly. Mr Blair, for all his LABOUR speeches and policy state-

ments, has remained evasive on the key economic issues - above all the questions of tax and monetary policy which obsess both the media and the middle class. This obscurity has been deliberate. It is an article of faith in the Blair camp that the plans for higher taxes announced just before the last election were largely responsible for Labour's defeat. From this premise Labour has concluded that the way to avoid another debacle is not to reveal their tax until the last possible moment. This is an odd idea, if you think about it. since that was exactly what John Smith did in 1992. But more of

that on Monday. Labour also has a more positive reason for dodging economic commitments. Rather than offer-



All smiles in the Shadow Cabinet - but would Tony Blair be safe from a palace coup?

ing clear alternatives on tax. inflation and economic growth. Labour's strategy is merely to attack the Tory record and so neutralise the traditional Tory lead on these issues. Labour can then concentrate on battlefields like educanon, health, Wellare and the quality of life, where Mr Blair's brand of ethical "socialism" can rout the mercenary individualism of the Tories.

Opinion polls confirm Labour's view that education, health and welfare now matter more to voters than economics. And in all these areas - which I will examine next week - Labour is far ahead. But keeping attention focused on social issues may become more difficult as the election approaches. This is Labour's second problem in coming across as a party that knows what to do with power.

Mr Blair believes, quite rightly, that governments can often get things done without spending public money. Instead of raising new taxes or changing the monetary framework, a government can change priorities. revise legislation, reallocate public spending or simply try to change the climate of opinion. Mr Blair also believes, again with justice, that successful reforms in education and welfare could contribute greatly to prosperity and long-term economic growth. Yet most people persist in thinking that economic policy is critical, not only in winning elections, but also in running vernments. As long as Labour's economic policies remain obscure, therefore, attention will constantly shift back from his chosen social battlefield to the economy. And the longer Mr Blair tries to avoid revealing his economic commitments, the more suspect his entire programme will become - and the greater the risk that a wavering nicicie ciass will succumo to Tory propaganda machine.

This leads to Labour's third, and most troubling, credibility problem. Are Mr Blair's promises any guide to what Labour would do in power? Again and again in my conversations with businessmen and middle-class voters. I heard the phrase "remember the GLC". Many voters still seem to fear a post-election palace coup, modelled on what happened in 1983 when the "loony Left", led by Ken Living-stone, ousted the moderate Labour leadership within 24 hours of Labour winning control of the Greater London Council.

The Blair camp is well aware of this lack of trust. Indeed, they say openly that their biggest electoral challenge is to persuade the voters that the likeable Mr Blair is the authentic face of new Labour. To borrow a phrase from the world of computers. Labour must prove it is now a party where "what you see is what you get. But this critical task, too, is made more difficult by Mr Blair's evasiveness on economics. As we shall see on Monday, the outlines of an unthreatening and plausible strategy can be discerned in Labour's economic pronouncements. Yet Mr Blair refuses to put the middle class and the business community at ease by spelling out his full plans.

The same turns out to be true on education, health, welfare, industry or local government. The broad plans are clear enough, but when one gets close tails, the policies begin to shim-

mer and vanish like a mirage. If he could allay suspicions once and for all on future levels of taxes, the minimum wage and a few other critical variables, Labour would become virtually invulnerable to the only weapon the Tories seem to possess - the question of trust. But if Mr Blair allows middle-class suspicions to fester, he may find it hard to stop defections back to the Tory fold as the election draws near.

Mr Blair must perceive the political merit of allaying suspicions well before the election. To win trust today is much easier than to wait for the feverish atmosphere of an election. Why. then, doesn't he announce the critical details that could make his policies stand up - whether on the top rate of tax, minimum: wages or the method for weeding out incompetent teachers?

Is it because revealing the full Labour agenda would be political suicide, as the Tories claim? Is it because he must hide his true intentions for fear of provoking the class-warriors of old Labour? Or is it because he really does not know what he wants to do with power?

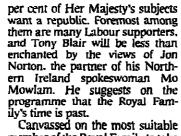
These are among the questions on which I hope to shed some light in the next week.

Simon Jenkins is away.

Reign fall?

THE SEPARATION of Princess Alexandra's daughter Marina Mowatt and her far from distinguished photographer husband Paul comes just days before a disastrous poll for the Royal Family. On Monday, a television documentary will show that republicans have increased in number by at least 500 per cent over the past decade.

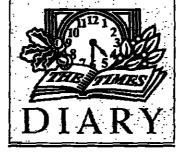
For its programme The Republic of Britain. World in Action's over the reins from the Queen, MORI poll shows that at least 25 many more individuals opted for



member of the Royal Family to take



Royal lookalikes play up the monarchy



the Princess Royal than for the lacklustre Prince of Wales. And Betty Boothroyd was the most popular choice as a potential president of a British republic.

The republican agenda, meanwhile, appears to be penetrating our most sacred institutions. understand that a bunch of royal lookalikes is hoping to stage its show, The Fairytale Royal Wedding, at Lord's cricket ground. There is talk of a topless Diana, but the show's organisers insist that the actors will remain clothed.

Auld enemy

SCOTTISH Nationalists are crowing over a rare victory. Michael Forsyth, the feisty Scottish Secretary, has withdrawn from next week's planned commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden. Culloden was where the Duke of Cumberland quashed the forces of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobite rebels.

The Scottish Office is saying that Forsyth must attend a Cabinet meeting in London on Tuesday. A senior civil servant will take his place. The Scottish Nationalists say

The National Trust for Scotland had already warned of the overemotional types who are dogging the anniversary. Nationalist hotheads recently sprayed the com-memorative Cumberland Stone with the words "murderers" and "British genocide". The SNP, who accused Forsyth of wanting to use the commemoration as a photo opportunity, will be at Drumossie Muir, three miles from Inverness, in force. They claim that their motives are in some strange way untainted by political considerations.

High price . . .

AFTER the Tories' latest by-election defeat in Staffordshire South East, some senior Conservatives are suggesting that their party should not even bother contesting by-elections in future. While Brian Mawhinney, the narty chairman.

seemed gripped by a strange galextend the principle so that the parlows humour yesterday, and the Prime Minister was said to be in good spirits, they must still face the fact that each by-election costs the party about £100,000 and results in

nothing but humiliation. Harold Wilson provides the inspiration here. He was the first modern Prime Minister not to travel to constituencies during by-elections. After some initial flak, his decision became a firmly estab-lished precedent. Thanks to Wilson, John Major does not have to campaign in by-elections. Why not



"I'm afraid our bloody-nose department has been closed?

ty in power does not have to waste precious resources?

Summit talks

A HEAVYWEIGHT logistical. problem exists in the Yorkshire Dales: how to elevate Lord Healey to the summit of one of the region's highest peaks. The ramblers and conservationist group Friends of DalesRail want their president to unveil a plaque atop the 2,273ft

Penyghent.
The friends have ruled out portly Healey ascending under his own steam. To be honest, I've been ducking sending the invitation to Lord Healey," says the secretary, Frank Reynolds. "How will we get him to the top? A helicopter? Healey is keeping his head down: "I know nothing about it." he says.

Spaced out

EVEN THOUGH he is life-president and a former chairman of Watford Football Club. Elton John. the follically-challenged singer, has been stopped from parking his Bentley in the directors' car park. At the last match, car and chauffeur were dispatched to the lesser guest car nark further from the



Angry Elton

subscription fee.

So appalled, apparently, was our Elton that he left before half time. in a huff. The club secretary, Jewa Alexander, says there was no room.

He was laid to rest in Highgate Cemetery in 1883, but Karl Marx, the father of Communism, has been brought back to life. In the last bulletin of the Association of British Science Writers, his name appeared on a blacklist of members who failed to pay the correct

(DE low KA)





BY-ELECTION BLUES

They woke up in the morning, stared defeat in the face

"We still have a lot of work to do," was the understatement of the day from John Major, contemplating his party's dreadful defeat in the Staffordshire South East by-election. Less insightful was the end of his sentence: "no get our message across". It is a cliché of Tory party conferences that electoral unpopularity is blamed on poor presentation. But politics is about more than public relations. Political success demands leadership, vision and competence, and this administration has been marked by a lack of all three.

Again the Tories were left wrongfooted by the scale of Labour's victory on Thursday night. At the start of the campaign, there were mutterings that this might be the first seat since Richmond in 1989 that the Conservatives would hold. Such a success would mark the beginnings of an electoral recovery. As the weeks wore on, the Tories became more realistic a Labour majority of under 5,000 would be presented as a turning point. But the actual majority of 13,762 on a 22 per cent swing surpassed their worst fears.

They could not even realistically claim sthough they tried) that Tories had just stayed at home. In fact the turnout, at 60 per cent was relatively high for a by-election. What should worry the Conservatives is that so many of their supporters actually voted for Labour. A victory on this scale for the main Opposition party is unprecedented at this point in the electoral cycle.

Time is running out and so is the Con-servative majority. Each month that passes without a turn-up in the polls makes the recovery that would be needed to win the next election steeper still. And the danger increases that Mr Major might be forced into an earlier election: the gap facing him in the polls could be gaping. He must soon realise that his tactic of twinning an economic recovery with scare stories about Labour is not enough. A return of the "feel-good" factor may be a necessary condition of a Tory recovery, but it is by no means sufficient. And attacks on Labour's competence have little force unless the Government is de-

monstrably more competent than its rivals. It is sometimes said by Tory strategists that the party is seen as "cruel but efficient" while Labour is "compassionate but incompetent". Yet such has been this Government's record of mismanagement that it risks being labelled as "cruel" and incompetent. Faced with a choice between a Labour administration that might be incompetent and a Tory one that has proved itself so. voters might well decide to risk the former.

The Conservative Party may argue all it likes about whether it should shift to the Right or fight Tony Blair on the centre ground. Both tactics have flaws: a shift to the Right cedes the centre to Labour, a patch of territory that Mr Blair has shown himself delighted to occupy. Yet if the Tories do not show clear differences between themselves and the Opposition, voters may feel reassured in voting for what will seem like a mere managerial change.

But ideology is a second-order problem if a Government is not capable of running the country properly. BSE was not a party political issue; but it seems extraordinary that, over ten years, ministers could not have made advance plans for the contingency that BSE might be connected with CJD. Instead we saw the spectacle of ministers flailing in public, departments squabbling, decisions being overturned and an industry threatened with bankruptcy. Neither consumers

nor farmers have been mollified. Europe is the one issue on which the Conservatives could really outflank Labour. Yet, because of party divisions, the message even there has had to be one of studied opacity. No wonder the voters are determined to punish the Tories. They believe little of what comes out of ministers' mouths; and the words themselves are meagre enough.

PERES BOMBS LEBANON

Israel's security and its Prime Minister's election

armed, extremist Shia organisation based in Lebanon, took a grave and bloody turn vesterday. Israeli warplanes bombed Beirut ar the second time in 24 hours, as well as pounding several villages in the war-scarred Bekaa valley. Among the dead were mem-bers of Hezbollah and a number of innocent civilians. Disturbingly, 12 Syrian army soldiers were reported also to have been wounded, some critically.

This vicious little war, which predates the Oslo accords, and which has been slowed not at all by the Arab-Israeli peace process, continues to sap Israeli morale by its relentless, attritional character. Counterattack, in the region's well-worn manner, swiftly followed attack, and the conflict has now acquired a more intense complexion than even most Israelis feared. Deaths. injuries, the evacuation of civilians, the destruction of property and the disruption of commercial life have now occurred on both sides of the border. And Shirnon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, has given warning that the attacks on "Hezbollah positions" in Lebanon are not about to cease.

Why has Israel acted in this way? Why did Mr Peres authorise the first direct Israeli attack on Beirut for 14 years? There are two explanations: the first is that the steady increase in the intensity of rocket attacks by Hezbollah on northern Israel could not have gone unanswered; and the second, simply, is that Mr Peres faces the Israeli public in a neral election within a few weeks.

The second fact is not unrelated to the first: Mr Peres has always had a reputation in his own country as a leader "soft" on security. This reputation is, of course, baseless. Yet the smear is an old one and Mr Peres has had to spend much time, in the

The war between Israel and Hezbollah, the run-up to the elections, cleansing his name of it. A failure to respond to the Katyusha attacks by Hezbollah - mainly on electorally-sensitive border towns like Kiryat Shimona - would have played straight into the hands of Benjamin Netanyahu and the Likud opposition. In any case, the rocket attacks had begun to acquire disagreeable proportions: Mr Peres would have been correct, even in a non-electoral climate, to adopt a muscular response.

The affair, however, has another dimension, one which illustrates clearly the Israeli Prime Minister's dilemma. The missing element in the Middle East peace is an accord between Israel and Syria: this accord, it has so far been assumed, will deliver the occupied Golan Heights to Syria in exchange for cast-iron guarantees of nonaggression from Damascus. These guarantees, it has also been assumed, would include the end of the war with Hezbollah.

Yesterday's stepping-up of the border war, however, has made peace with Syria increasingly improbable. Ominously, it may also have marked a further stage in Hezbollah's graduation from Syrian puppet to independent menace. The last few months have seen a decline in Syrian control over the Shia organisation: the bombing of Beirut, with its accompanying inflammation of Lebanese nationalism, will only enhance Hezbollah's self-portrait as the guardian of Lebanese sovereignty.

Mr Peres faces a delicate equation: he must hit back at Hezbollah or risk losing votes in the forthcoming election. But he must not use force in such a way as to put in peril a prospective peace with Syria. How he balances these two factors will be a test of his statecraft. But excess here, clearly, would be the enemy of success.

MONTREZ VOS BILLETS

It is no longer 'tickets please' on Network SouthCentral

At least this time the French will have a station to remind them of an historic victory. rather than a terminus for ever associated with the end of Napoleonic gloire. Hastings, conquered yesterday by a transport subsidiary of Generale des Eaux, will surely take pride of place among the south coast stations that are now part of the French-owned London & South Coast rail franchise. The French connection, luckily, does not reach Waterloo: that prize eluded the acquisitive unility company in the first franchising round. Instead, the railway will operate from three London stations: Victoria, London Bridge and Charing Cross, the last having a happy French ring to it as the name reputedly comes from "chère reine", the beloved Queen Eleanor commemorated with crosses around the country.

Passengers to cosmopolitan Brighton may now be hoping for a dash of Gallic charm and cuisine on their daily commute. Will croissants and fresh coffee replace the fading whiff of kippers? Will there be railway hostesses in chic Parisian fashions, winetaking in the buffets, beakers full of the warm South as the commuters approach

Norwood Junction? Alas, such dreams founder on the drab realities of rail franchising. There will be few trains a grande vitesse on the lines to Kent, Sussex and Surrey: the L&SC will be a faint echo of the mighty London, Brighton and South Coast railway — the company in magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la gare."

whose cloakroom the handbag containing the infant Jack Worthing was deposited. The new company, like the new France, will be cutting costs, and commuters will have to put up with refurbished stock and 32-year old slam-door trains until the next century. There are consolations. The parent com-

pany made its money in water, and consolidated its track record in trams, buses and coaches in France. It does not have the rail muscle of SNCF, but neither does it have the bloated payroll of the nationalised French network. It promises to invest £10 million in station improvements and better services, and passengers on even the least glamorous lines may be touched by French élan:L&SC promises more off-peak services through Lower Sydenham, more Sunday specials to Croydon via Tulse Hill. And with its intimate knowledge of water. Generale des Eaux may discover how to deal with the wrong kind of snow.

To rail historians the deal may seem like the revenge of Joan of Arc. Britain, the inventor of railways, gave France its rail gatige, its habit of driving on the left and the original Stephenson locomotives that plied the first line from St Etienne to Lyons. Will the trains that clatter down to Worthing and Chichester now bear the names of Jeanne d'Arc, Molière and de Gaulle? And will commuters, arriving at a revamped gallicised Victoria remark: "C'est

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

scratchcard games

From the Director General of the National Lottery

Sir, It is disappointing that you chose to give credence, in your report of April 10, to allegations from the Directory of Social Change (DSC) that Oflot had failed to carry out appropriate re-search on National Lottery spending patterns. Despite what the authors of The National Lottery Yearbook may claim, the facts are rather different.

My office has conducted research four different organisations over the last ten months. One of those bodies, National Opinion Polls, has now carried out seven separate survevs on scratchcard purchases. We began this work within four months of the first scratchcard game being launched.

The DSC is well aware of our work in this area. Indeed, we sent them a detailed report on our social-research programme in February.

For the record, I would like to make it clear that there is no evidence from my research that scratchcards have caused excessive participation in the UK. Nor has it shown that they have created damaging social effects. I am, of course, continuing to monitor the situation closely. Should circumstances require it, I will not hesitate to take whatever action is necessary to carry out my statutory responsibilities.

On a separate point, the DSC suggests that Oflot should prosecute retailers who sell National Lottery tickets to those under 16. I report all such incidents to the relevant police force. If the DSC had checked the legislation it would have known that we are not empowered to mount such prosecu-

Yours faithfully. PETER A. DAVIS, Director General, Office of the National Lottery, 2 Monck Street, SWI.

From Mr Irving Luke

Sir. The distribution of lottery cash to worthy causes remains a contentious issue. The solution is obvious ... decide by lottery.

Yours etc. IRVING LUKE, 44 Fairfax Road, NW6. April 11.

Tory blues

From Dr R. K. Knight

Sir. Three hundred years ago the ries lost the seat at Tamworth, Sta fordshire, to Thomas Guy. One would like to think that Mr

Guy, who sat as the Whig MP from 1695 to 1707, is looking down with satisfaction at the by-election result (report, later editions, April 12). He would certainly be very angry with the present Government, which is trying to destroy the hospital he founded and endowed.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT KNIGHT, Keats House Guy's Hospital. St Thomas Street, SEI. April 12.

From Mr M. J. Slater

Sir, In his article, "Beware a slaughter too far" (April 11), Nicholas Budgen refers to rough shooting and states: "I don't want to stop anyone else shooting but I do not want to shoot myself."

In the light of the news today from Staffordshire South East this will be a relief to John Major and the Conservative Party.

Yours faithfully. M. J. SLATER. Leycroft, Barnton Loan, Edinburgh. April 12

Genius of Vermeer

From Mrs Robina Cooke Sir, I would like to thank Simon Jen-

kins for his refreshing article, "The cleansing of Vermeer", (April 6). 1 studied and greatly enjoyed 17th-century Dutch masters when at school and have been to Holland several times to continue the pleasure. The quality of light and simple domestic side of Vermeer's work have always

appealed to me. As Mr Jenkins says, not a great deal is known about Vermeer — but why the constant need to search and invent, when we are left with such a legacy? Surely these pictures, with all their charm and screnity, say all that we need to know?

Yours sincerely, ROBINA COOKE, Llanerch Frochwei, Weishpool, Powys. April 8.

Time warp

From Mrs F. H. Cave Sir. I recently discovered what appears to be a grave problem with digi-

tal clocks. How do you explain to a child who says she woke up one morning at "eight dot dot two four", that she could find the comet at 10 o'clock from the Pole Star?

the state of the s

Yours faithfully. FREDA H. CAVE, 86 Summerlands Park Avenue, Ilminster, Somerset.

Social change and Vocal objections to Mary Stuart

From Lady Antonia Fraser

Sir, The Friends of Mary Queen of Scots, if such an association existed (and why not?), would like me to point out that she actually spoke English with a Scottish accent, not a French one (letter, April 12).

Queen Mary spent the first six years of her life speaking Scots, not French. When she went to France in July 1548 she was far from being cut off from Scots-speakers. She took with her numerous Scottish attendants, such as her nurse Jean Sinclair, her governess Lady Fleming, and a train of children of the Scottish nobility, including the girls known as the Four

As a result Queen Mary was still able to speak Scots fluently when she returned to her native country 13 years later: both the English ambassador and the papal envoy mention the fact that it was her preferred language.

When Mary Queen of Scots fled to England - and captivity - in 1568 she began painfully to learn English from her first captor, at Bolton Castle.

Of course there is nothing wrong with the casting of a distinguished French actress to play the part of Schiller's Mary Stuart to signify her 'French-ness" (although by the time Schiller's play takes place Queen Mary had spent far more time in England than she had in France). Schiller

takes liberties with history: so why

should not a director?

Isabelle Huppert's beauty and grace on stage did the character of Mary Queen of Scots proud. It is true that her comprehensibility on the press night was virtually nil, leaving all the lines, not only the best lines, for Anna Massey's virtuoso Elizabeth I. But then the Friends of Mary Queen of Scots are well used to the contest being rigged in favour of the English

Yours sincerely. ANTONIA FRASER, 52 Campden Hill Square, W8.

From Sir Rowland Whitehead

Sir, Miss Sandy Carlier is quite right: my wife and I understood not a word of Isabelle Huppert's lines in the National Theatre's production of Mary

If the actors depicted "real life" then surely they, too, would not have understood her and we should have heard them say, "Eh?", "What's that?", "Come again?" or suchlike. But we didn't.

Yours sincerely. ROWLAND WHITEHEAD. Sutton House, Chiswick Mall, W4.

From Mr Alan Bowman

matter who is in power.

Sir. Politicans are always saying the

"feel-good" factor is missing or is

being searched for or does not exist.

What saddens me is that no one is

talking about what will happen in the

next five years with the economy, no

Since 1985 companies from abroad

have been making vast inward invest-

ment in the United Kingdom as a

gateway to Europe. Billions of pounds

have been invested in the past II years

and today our country produces more

motor cars than ever before, more

computers, more televisions and more

electronic goods of all types. Our mo-

tor car exports in 1997 are likely to

turn our economy round on their own.

will try and claim they were responsi-

ble, and vilify others, as that is all they

appear capable of these days. Why

don't they just tell everyone in

straightforward terms that business

will be good, and why?

Leasing and Finance Ltd.

Yours faithfully.

(Chairman),

ALAN BOWMAN

Holmesdale House,

Undoubtedly whoever is in power

A few factors to feel good about

From Miss Cordelia H. J. Hime

Sir, I am bored with hearing Labour trying to worry people about job insecurity, taxation and living standards. Inflation, the key to securing economic growth that will last and ending the days of "boom and bust", has been below 4 per cent for longer than at any time in the last 50 years.

Unemployment is lower than in any other major European country. The proportion of national income taken by the State is lessening, allowing us to spend or save as we wish.

Many of the burdens on business have been swept away. Cutting red tape and state interference helps business and industry to generate the wealth that makes Britain a more prosperous place.

The benefits of careful management by a Conservative government are clear. Only the Conservatives can build on Britain's success to create a nation of opportunity in the next millennium.

Yours faithfully, (Committee member, Putney Conservative Association), Field House, 248 Dover House Road, Roehampton, SW15. April 12.

Conflict in Liberia

From the Africa Director of Save the Children

Sir, Contrary to any impression that your readers might gain from a news report in your later editions today, Save the Children intends to stay in Monrovia and not to abandon Liberians in an hour of desperate need. We will be attempting to bear witness to what is happening, to give whatever humanitarian assistance we can and to restart full aid operations at the earliest opportunity.

We cannot do this alone. It is vital that a larger international presence should remain. Your leading article today puts the onus on the United States: but the United Nations as a whole must maintain an effective presence, as the secretary-general has

For five years the UN has sat on the sidelines, sanctioning an experiment in regional peacekeeping whose record has been dubious at best. This is not good enough. With Liberians now

facing a double emergency - hunger and need in the countryside, violent disruption in the capital - the UN at all levels, from field representatives of the key humanitarian agencies up to the Security Council, must re-engage with Liberia.

46 Croydon Road, Reigate, Surrey.

A political resolution must be found, aid operations must be sup-ported, and the monitoring force (Ecomog) mounted by the Economic Community of West African States needs to be reconstituted, to protect the population, the aid community and the strategic points of the city.

British influence can be particularly significant, as a major funder of Ecomog, as an important link to regional powers including Nigeria and Ghana. as a member of the European Union which is the biggest aid provider, and as a member of the Security Council.

Yours faithfully. MARK R. BOWDEN (Africa Director), The Save the Children Fund, 17 Grove Lane, SE5. Aoril II.

Alternative medicine

From Earl Baldwin of Bewdley

Sir. The implied argument in Nigella Lawson's article about complementary medicine ("Don't grow old, grow up", April 3) that non-conventional equals New Age equals quackery has little good evidence to support it but then, as she admits, she has "little in the way of evidence to bring to bear.

New Age is in any case a strange term to apply to a body of medicine which includes such well established disciplines as acupuncture, homoeopathy, healing, chiropractic and osteopathy which are used extensively and to patients' satisfaction for such conditions as hypertension, asthma, back pain, stress, depression and cancer.

Further, no treatment can of itself be "unscientific" as she describes "alternative" medicine: it either works or it doesn't. If it does work it is the job of science to discover why, which may involve rearranging some cherished dogmas.

Yours faithfully, **BALDWIN OF BEWDLEY** (Joint Chairman, Parliamentary Group for Alternative and Complementary Medicine). House of Lords. April 4.

Bard and Apocrypha

From Professor the Reverend Canon J. R. Porter

Sir, You report (April 9) that Dr Margarita Stocker finds evidence of Shakespeare's Catholicism from the names of his daughters, Susanna and Judith, which occur in the Apocrypha. books which, she says, were "denounced as bogus by the Protestant establishment of the time".

This statement is nonsense. It was only the Puritans who wholly rejected the Apocrypha. The position of the official Elizabethan Church was quite different. Thus, the 39 Articles of Religion of 1571, while stating that the Apocryphal writings are not to be applied "to establish any doctrine", commends their reading "for example of

life and instruction of manners". The Calendar of 1561 orders the reading of the Apocrypha, including the whole of Susanna and Judith, once a year in the course of the daily services of morning and evening prayer. The Edwardine and Elizabethan books of homilies, to be read by the clergy to their congregations, frequently quote from the Apocrypha.

Yours faithfully, J. R. PORTER, 36 Theberton Street, Barnsbury, NI. April 9.

Weekend Money letters, page 38

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Hymns to sooth a fearful traveller

From Or Nicholas Marston

Sir, Mrs Lorna Boyce (letter, April 8) seeks guidance for an appropriate hymn to precede her daughter's journey through the Channel Tunnel. She will surely be comforted by Cardinal Newman's splendid Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS MARSTON St Peter's College, Oxford. April 9.

From Mrs M. R. Harkness

Sir. Surely the most appropriate hymn for a venturer through the Channel Tunnel would be Rock of ages, cleft for me.

Yours faithfully, MARGARET HARKNESS. 7 Cloisters Road. Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire.

From Mrs Frances M. Allison

Sir, I suggest Martin Luther's hymn. based on Psalm 130 (De profundis): Out of the depths I cry to thee, Lord God! O hear my prayer!

Yours sincerely, FRANCES M. ALLISON, Coombe Cross Bungalow, Dittisham, Dartmouth, Devon.

From Mrs P. M. Beevers

Sir, Whether crossing to the Continent by air, sea or tunnel, I suggest that Make me a channel of your peace. based on a prayer by St Francis, would be appropriate.

Yours faithfully, P. M. BEEVERS, 84 Main Street, Newbold-on-Avon, Rugby, Warwickshire.

From Mr G. E. Edmondson-Jones

Sir, Writing as one who is nervous of air travel, I think Mrs Boyce's daughter should be encouraged to sing, preferably to herself. Give us the wings of

faith to rise, by Isaac Wans. I certainly find it a consoling thought that, if perchance I should meet my Maker on the flight, I had recently expressed the hope of joining the saints above.

Yours sincerely.
GERALD EDMONDSON-JONES. Richmond Garth, Oulston Road, Easingwold, York.

From Professor W. C. Noble

Sir. Might not a verse from the "commuters' hymn". Bishop Heber's The Son of God goes forth to war. suffice: They climbed the steep ascent of Heav'n Through peril, toil and pain; O God, to us may grace be given

To follow in their train. Yours faithfully. W. C. NOBLE (Professor of microbiology and a commuter). University of London, United Medical and Dental Schools, St Thomas' Hospital, SEL

From Mr Peter Gladstone

Sir, I am reminded of the occasion in the early 1950s when a helicopter arrived to collect the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, from The Meadows to attend a meeting elsewhere. This mode of transport was innovative for an Oxford don at that date and Dean Jonathan Lowe sensibly asked some members of the Junior Common

Room to police the event. As he left a large group of spectators sang Hail the day that sees Him rise. On his return he was greeted with Lowe, He comes with clouds descend-

Yours etc. PETER GLADSTONE. Fasque, Fettercairn, Kincardineshire.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Cockram (retd)

Sir. Mrs Boyce's letter prompts memories of the First World War, when Christians awake, salute the happy morn meant Reveille, When He cometh meant CO's parade, Tell me the old, old story was an officer's lecture and Praise God from whom all bless-

ings flow meant Dismiss. What means this anxious, eager throng? signalled the 5pm serving of

Yours aye.
JOHN COCKRAM (General Manager). The Royal British Legion Training Company, Ordnance Road, Tidworth, Wiltshire.

From Mrs Ann Hughes

April 9.

Sir. With tendencies towards claustrophobia, and mindful of a long interlude in the dark en route to France. Through the night of doubt and sorrow would be the only hymn for a journey through the Channel Tunnel.

But I am about to drive northwards.

Is there no suitable hymn for the

M5/M6 interchange? I am sure that hundreds of motorists would find it a comfort if one could be found, as there is obviously no other solution to the problem.

Yours sincerely, ANN HUGHES, Fiddlers Green, Castledore Road, Tywardreath, Par, Cornwall.



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE April 12: The Duke of Edinburgh today attended an Interfaith Meeting at the Chartridge Conference Centre, Chesham, Bucking-

BUCKINGHAM PALACE April 12: The Princess Royal, Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this morning visited Davaar and Sanda Lighthouses on board MV Pharos.

ST JAMES'S PALACE April 12: The Prince of Wales was represented by Mr Hamish Leslie-Melville at the Memorial Service for the Duke of Atholi which was

held in Dunkeld Cathedral this

KENSINGTON PALACE April 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was represented by Major Sir David Butter at the Memorial Service for The Duke of Atholl which was held in Dunkeld Cathedral, Perthshire. this afternoon. YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE April 12: The Duke of Kent was represented by Sir Michael Ver-non at a Memorial Service for the Duke of Atholl which was held in Dunkeld Cathedral, Perthshire, this afternoon.

Service dinners

Royal Warwickshire Regiment Brigadier H.C. Illing presided at the annual dinner of the Regi-mental Dinner Club of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Sixth Foot) held last night at the Shire Hall, Warwick.

Royal Artillery Mr Bruce Farthing. Senior Under Officer, presided at a dinner for members of Troop A53 Royal Artillery OCTU, 1945/6, and their ladies held last night at Woolwich. to mark the 50th anniversary of their passing out, General Ben Bouman and General Sir Richard

4th Parachute Brigade

Colonel Geoffrey Powell presided at the annual reunion dinner of officers of the 4th Parachute Brigade (1942-44) Group held last night at the Army and Navy Club.

General Sir Roger Wheeler. Colonel Commandant, presided at the 41st Annual Dinner of the Intellience Corps Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Templer Barracks, Ashford, Kent. General Sir Charles Guthrie, past Colonel Commandant, and Mr B.E. Edwards, Master of the Painter-Stainer's Company, were among

RAF Oxford and Cambridge

Society

Dr Philip Towle of Cambridge University and Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Alcock were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the RAF Oxford and Cambridge Society held last night in St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss

Weekend birthdays

TODAY

The Kahaka of Buganda celebraies his 41st birthday today. Miss Audrey Barker, writer, 78: Mr Stephen Byers, MP, 43; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield. 83; Mr Frank Chamberlain. former chairman. Test and County Cricket Board, 71; the Hon Alan Clark, former MP, 68; the Right Rev R.N. Coote, former Bishop of Colchester, 81: Mr Liam Cosgrave. former leader, Fine Gael Party, 76: Mr Beverley Cross, playwright, 65: Mr Peter Davison, actor, 45; Mr Edward Fox, actor, 59: Mr Justice Harman, 66: Mr Peter M. Harris. Official Solicitor to the Supreme Court. 59: Air Marshal Sir Kenneth Hayr, ol: Mr Seamus Heancy, poet, 57: Sir Peter Heap, diplomat. of: Mr Garry Kasparov. chess player, 33: Mr Howard Keel. ringer and actor, 77: Canon J.N.D. Kelly, former Principal, St Edmund Hall, Oxford, 87; the Duke of Marlborough, 70: Mr Jonio O'Neill, racehorse trainer, 44: Dame Margaret Price, opera singer, 55: Sir Stephen Roberts. former chairman. Milk Marketing Board, St. Mrs Barbara Roche, MP, 42: Baron Thyssen-

Sir Patrick Brown, civil servant, 56; Mr Roy Cameron, Chief Con-stable. Dumfries and Galloway, 49: the Earl of Chichester, 52: Miss Julie Christie, actress, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, 65: Miss Susan Davies, photographer, t3: Sir John Gielgud, CH, actor, 92: Mr Gerry Gillman, trade unionist, 69: Mr Ivor Guest, ballet writer, 70: Mr C.J.M. Haines. former chief executive. Jockey Club. 57: Miss Eiddwen Harrhy soprano, 47: Lord Hastings, 84: the Right Rev Dr David Hope, Arch bishop of York, 56: Mr Paddy Hopkirk, rally driver, 63; Mr Julian Lloyd Webber, cellist, 45: Miss L.E.M. Mackie, former Headmistress. City of London School for Girls, 70; Colonel Sir Robert Macrae. former Lord-Lieutenant of Orkney, 81: Baroness Masham of Liton, 61: Mr P.G.A. Ramsay, former controller, BBC Scotland, 70: Dr J.M. Roberts, former Warden, Merton College, Oxford, 68; the Ven R.H. Roberts, former Chaplain of the Fleet, 65: Mr David Skipper, former Headmaster, Merchant Taylors' School, 65: Mr Rod Steiger, actor, 71: Miss Elizabeth Symons, trade unionist. 45: Sir Peler Thomp former president, NFC, 68: Mr George Walker, former chief exec-Wedderburn of Charlton, QC, 69; utive. Brent Walker Group, 67: Baroness Warnock, 72.

School news

Giggleswick School

Summer Term begins on Tuesday, April 23. Confirmation will be taken by the Bishop of Bradford on Sunday, May 5, Speech Day is on Saturday, May 25 when the Guest of Honour will be Mr Richard Whiteley, Old Giggleswickian, and the Commemoration Service will be taken by the Rev Norman Daniels. Old Giggleswickian and Former Chaplain of the School.

Sir John Weston, diplomat. 58:

Lieutenant-General Sir James Wil-

The Captain of Cricket is Oliver Cruse and the visiting Professional will be Mr Andrew Lawson of Border Cricket Club and Eastern Province. Captains of Boys' and Girls' Tennis are Jacob Flint and Deborah Gibson. Sports Day is on Sunday, June to and on Thursday, August 1, the Girls' Hockey XI depart for their tour of South Africa.

Africa.
Old Giggleswickians who left 1951-60 will be the special guests at the reunion on Saturday. May 18. and Old Giggleswickians' Day will take place on Saturday. July 6.

at which occasion the Centenary Chapel Appeal will be formally launched. The Headmaster, Mr Anthony Millard, and the retiring Senior Master, Mr Warwick Brookes, will be the guests at a special Old Giggleswickians' reception at the Hong Kong Club on Wednesday, April 17. Informa-tion on any of these events is available from the Headmaster's Secretary on 01729 823545.

Godstowe Preparatory School, High Wycombe Gindstowe School is pleased to announce the following Scholarship Awards for 1996: Junior 8+ Academic Scholarships: Zanna Voysey, Godstowe, Stephanie Higginson, Godstowe: Helen Rollins, Polam House School.

Pamela Brent. Godstowe: Miranda Lewin, Godstowe: Victoria Ross. Godstowe: Victoria Ross. Godstowe.
Further details of 8+ and 11+
Scholarship examinations for entry in
September 1997 may be obtained
from the school. Entries must be
completed before December 31, 1996.

BUTLERS WHARF

The replica of the Matthew, the explorer John Cabot's boat, making its way through Tower Bridge yesterday as part of its sea trials before attempting to recreate Cabot's 15th-century journey across the Atlantic

Memorial service

The Duke of Atholi

The Prince of Wales was repre-sented by Mr Hamish Leslie-Melville at a memorial service for the Duke of Atholl held yesterday in Dunkeld Cathedral.

Princess Margaret was repre-sented by Major Sir David Buner and the Duke of Kent, as President of the RNLI, by Sir Michael Vernon. The Very Rev Professor Robin Barbour officiated. Miss Jane Troughton and Mr Alex Barbour read the lessons. The Earl of Wemyss and March and Lord Farnham gave addresses. The Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane pronounced the blessing. A piper of the Atholl Highlanders took part. The Provost of Perth and Kinross Council and the Lady Provost attended. Among others present were:

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Campbell-Preston (stepfather). Mr and

Mrs Jamie Troughton (half-brother-in-law and half-sister). Miss Claire Troughton, Robert Troughton, the Duke of Atholi, the Marquess of Tullibardine (representing the Transvaal Scottish

Navy, the Scottish Horse Regiment, the National Trust for Scotland, the Scottish Landowners Federation, the British Field Sports Society. Westminster Press, Keepers of the Quaich, the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and many other friends.

Luncheon

Tusk Trust Sir Christopher Lever, Chairman of the Tusk Trust, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday

Anniversaries

TODAY: BIRTHS: Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford, statesman, London, 1593; Frederick North, 2nd Earl of Guilford. Prime Minister 1770-82, London, 1732; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd American President 1809-09, Shadwell, Virginia, 1743: Richard Trevithick. pioneer of railways, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771: Sir Arthur Harris, Marshal of the RAF, Cheltenham. 1892: John Braine, novelist,

Bradford, 1922. DEATHS: Jean de La Fontaine. poet. Paris, 1695; Sir William Orchardson, painter, London,

The Royal Military Academy was established at Woolwich, 1741. Handel's Messiah was first per-formed in Dublin. 1742. The Catholic Emancipation Act was passed, 1829.

The Anti-Semitic League was founded in Prussia, 1882.

TOMORROW: BIRTHS: Ortelius. cartographer of the first atlas. Antwerp, 1527; Barbara Wootton. Baroness Wootton of Abinger. sociologist, Cambridge, 1897: Fran-cois Duvalier, president of Haiti 1957-71, Port-au-Prince, 1907.

DEATHS: Richard Neville, (The Kingmaker), Earl of Warwick and Earl of Salisbury, killed at the Battle of Barnet, 1471; George Frederic Handel, composer. London, 1759: Ernest Bevin, trade unionist. Foreign Secretary 1945-51. London, 1951: Frederic March. actor, Los Angeles, 1975: Simone de Beauvoir, writer, Paris, 1986.

The Yorkists defeated the Lancastrians at the Battle of Barnet and King Henry VI was deposed, 1471. The typhus vaccine was discovered by Dr Harry Plotz in New York.

The Highway Code was issued.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr C.D. Arden

and Miss N.J.P. Clarke The engagement is armounced between Christopher, younger son of the Right Rev Donald and Mrs Arden, of Pinner, Middlesex, formerly of Malawi, and Nadine, only daughter of Commander and Mrs David Clarke, of Seven Kings, Essex. Dr J.P.C. Brown

and Senorita A. Hingst The engagement is announced, and the marriage will take place shortly, between James Brown, of Southwark and Somerset, and Alexandra Hingst, of Southwark and San Paulo.

Mr A.T. Cupper and Miss R.E. Jeynes The engagement is announced between Anthony Tom, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Cupper, of Whithourne, Worcester, and Rachel Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Jeynes, of Tibberton, Worcester, Mr M.W.A.M. Hancock

and Miss B.L. Drury The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of Mr William Hancock, of Chelsea, London, and Mrs Michael Sher-idan, of Wrexham, Clwyd, and Bridget, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Drury, of Melbourne,

Australia. Mr A.F.S. Keddie and Miss J. Lyall

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs Stuart Keddie, of Plymouth, Devon, and Julia, only daughter of the late Mr Francis Lyall and of Mrs Alethea Lyall. of Westminster,

London. Captain G.S. Lort-Phillips and Mrs J.M. Rumboll The engagement is announced between Guy Stewart Lort-Philips, of Carnellia Cottage, Le Mont de Gouray. Jersey, and Jennifer Mary Rumboll (nee Darlow), of

Grouville, Jersey. Mr G. Raiph and Miss L Stephenson

The engagement is announced between Garry, second son of Mr and Mrs George Ralph, of Bickley, Kent, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Stephenson, of Bromley, Kent. Mr D.T. Scaley

and Miss A.M. Jones Mr and Mrs R. Alan Jones, of Smallfield, Surrey, are delighted to announced the engagement of their daughter Annette Mary, to David Thomas, second son of the late Mr and Mrs Edgar Sealey, of Mulbarton, Norwich,

Surgeon Lieutenant Commander J.G. Sharpley, R.N. and Miss N.J. Blinkhorn

The engagement is announced between John, second son of Mr and Mrs R.F.A. Sharpley, of Lydes Farm. Toddington. Gloucester shire, and Nitola, younger daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs M.L. Blinkhorn. of Potters Way, Broadway. Worcestershire

Mr I.R. Stewart

and Miss Z.A. Abbott The engagement is announced between tan Ross, second son of Mr Ian Stewart, of Old Hall, Crooklands, Cumbria, and Mrs Kirsteen Stewart, of Auchencairn. Dumfriesshire, and Zoë Anne, second daughter of the Rev Nigel and Mrs Abbott of Much Hadham Rectory, Hertfordshire.

Mr M.P.S. Thompson and Miss S-M. Chew The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Thompson, of Subbington House, Wansford, Peterborough, and Su-Mci, daughter of Mrs Chew and the late Mr K.C. Chew, of I Pesiaran Bukit Tunku. Kenny Hills, Kuala Lum-

Marriage -

pur. Malaysia.

Mr G.J.F. Miller and Miss A.J.E. Radford The marriage took place on April
4, 1996, in London, of George
youngest son of Mr and Mrs
James Miller, of East Green.
Suffolk, m Amanda, elder daughter of Mr Peter Radford, of Arlesford, Hampshire, and Mrs Carolyn Biddle, of Chobham,

Dinner

Association of British

Neurologists Mr Timothy Colman, Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, was a speaker at a dinner of the Association of British Neurologists beld last night at Blackfriars' Hall, Norwich, to mark the Association's Spring Scientific Meeting. Profes-sor Ian McDonald, president, was in the chair. At the meeting, ABN Medals, to recognise outstanding contributions by British Neurolo-gists to the science or practice of neurology, were awarded to Dr Christopher Earl, and posthu-

Church services tomorrow

First Sunday after Easter BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 S Euch. Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow). Celtic Euch (White). O Living Bread (Whitlock): 3.30 Chorol E. Brewer in D. O

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL 9MP: 9.15 HC. Il Choral Euch. Missa Brevis in C (K259) (Mozart). Jubilate in C (Britten). Ego sum panis vivus (Byrd). Canon A Luff: 4 Choral E. Hylton Stewart in C. Easter (Williams). BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.15 M: 10.30 Euch, Darke in E. Canon A Hindley: Choral E. Sing ye to the Lord (Bairstow). CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30

M; II S Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Rev P Mackenzie; 3.15 E, Murrill in E. Let all the world (Williams): 6.30 Compline. Rev J Thackray. CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Aston in F, This joyful Eastertide (Wood), March in D from Scipio

(Handel). The Dean: 3 E. CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. The

Vice Provost: 9.30 Euch. Rev J Jones: 11.15 S Euch, Ireland in C, Ego sum Panis (Esquivel). Rev J Jones: 6 Choral E. Wood in D, Ye choirs of New Jerusalem (Stanford). The Vice CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M.

Stanford in B flat. Ex ore innocentium (Ireland). The Precentor: II S Euch, Sumsion In F. Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons). The Brusalis Preb: 3.30 E. Blair in B minor, Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley). CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OF

ford: 3 HC; to M & Sermon. The Archdescon; II.15 S Euch. Mass for four voices (Byrd). Locus iste (Bruckner). Canon Gordon; 6 E. Dyson in D. My Beloved spake (Hadley). COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP: 8 Communion: 10.30 Euch, Rev A Darby; 3 German Lutherans; 5,30 E.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. The Dean; 10 M. Stanford in B flat, Antiphon (Williams). Canon D Brown: 11.15 HC, Darke in F, Jesu bread of life (Paviour), Canon D Hodgson: 3.30 E. Stanford in G, Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch,

Missa Brevis (Gabrieli), Justorum animae (Lassus), Canon Inge; 3.45 E, Stanford in C, Christic qui lux es dies (White) EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. Sicut cervus (Palestrina). Stanford in C & F. Ubi caritas (Duruflé), The Precentor; II.15 M. Te Deum (Byrd). Stanford in B flat, Blessed be

the God and Father (Wesley). The Treasurer: 3 E. Second Service (Byrd). O how amiable are thy dwellings (Weelkes): 6.30 Chants 107 & 104. Good Christian men (Bullock), Canon

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. Rev Dr I Fisher: 9.45 S Euch. Cabena in the Dorian Mode: Christ our passover is slain for us (Goss), Canon J Schofield; II.15 M, Jubilate in B flat (Stanford), The strife is o'er (Ley). Canon D Bryant: 6.30 E Short Service (Gibbons), Exultate justi (Viadana), Canon Dr

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M: 10.30 Euch. Leicester setting (Surnsion), The Strife is o'er (Vulpius), The Chancellor, 4 Choral E. Lang in E flat. Let God arise (Locket, The Chancellor. UNCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8.12.30

HC; 9,30 S Euch. Missa de Angelis, Missa Papae Maroelli (Palestrina). The Precentor: 11.15 M. Collegium regale (Howells), My lovely one (Finz): 3.45 E. Westminster Service (Howells). Ave Maria (Parsons), Canon E

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC. 10.30 Euch. Canon M Boyling: 3 Boys' Brigade, Guest Preacher; 4 HC. LIANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L:

8,12.15 Holy Euch, Rev N Court; 9 Parish Euch, Rev N Court; 11 S Euch, The Canon: 3.30 Choral E; 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, The NEWCASTI E CATHEDRAL: 8 Capon B

Langley: 930 Canon P Strange, Addington Service (Shephard), Metrical Gloria (Macca-Service (Snepularo), Metrical Choria Inducta-baeus), Canon B Langley; 6 Psalm. NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 8,9.15 Euch; 10.30 M, Easter Anthems, Chant. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Smart): 6.30 E. Brewer in D,

M. Festival Te Deum (Vaughan Williams). Jubilate in C (Kelly): 10:30 Euch. The Liverpool Service (Rawsthorne), The Call (Lloyd), The Treasurer: 3:30 E. Stanford in G. Expectans expectavi (Wood)
SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: || Choral Euch, Darke in F. Hymn to the Mother of

Easter song of Praise (Shephard).
PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30

MP: 10.30 S Euch. Canon G Tolley: 6.30 Festal E & Sermon. Canon C Smith

God (Tavener), Os justi (Bruckner), Canon R White; 3 E. Walmisley in D minor, Louis iste (Bruckner), O clap your hands (Gibbons), Canon R White. TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9 M. The Librarian; 10 S Euch, Missa Brevis Capella Regalis (Caesar), Hae: Dies (Byrd), The

Dean: 6 E. Collegium Regale (Howelis), Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanford), Canon T

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9,15 Parish C. Canon D Baxier: 11 Solemn Euch.
Canon I Know 630 E. The Provoca. WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. Darke in F. O salutaris hostia (Saint Saens). Rev D Goodman: 11.30 M. Sumsion in G. Away with gloom (Thompson): 3 E. Bairstow in D. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanfordi.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: S HC: 10 ML Festal Responses (Tallis), Te Deum in C (Dyson), He is risen (Whitlock), Canon D Hutt: 11.15 Euch, Statham in D. Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow), Canon A Harvey, 3 Festal Responses (Tallis). Moeran in D. O. for a closer walk with God (Stanford), Rev A Moses; 5.45 Recital: 6.30 E. Rev Dr P Bradshaw.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M. Te Deum in G (Williams). Timor et tremor (Poulenc), Mrs E Salter: 11.30 Euch, Western Wynde Mass (Shepherd), O quam gloriosum (Victoria): 3.20 E. Gloucester Service (How-ells), I saw the Lord (Stainer), Rev P Morgan. VORK MINSTER: 3, 8.45 HC: 10 Choral Euch, Mass (Widor), Miserere nostri (Tallis), Rev Dr J Toy: 11.50 M. Venite, Stanford in B flat: 4 E. Queen's Service (Stanford). Angeis

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL Clwyd: 8 HC; II Choral Euch, Mass for a Saint's Day (Jackson), The Lord is King (Boyce), The ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL Dyled: 8 HC: 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid; 9.30 Parish Euch. The Successor, 11.15 Choral M. Easter Anthems

(Anon), Stanford in B flat, My soul there is a country (Parry), The Dean: 6 Choral E. Walmisley in D minor, O thou the central ord (Wood). The Canon. ST GILES' CATHEDRAL Edinburgh: 8,10 Morning HC. Missa brevis (Britten), The Minister: 11.30 Science Festival & Kirking of the Council, Rise heart thy Lord is risen (Williams). The Minister, 6 St Giles: 8

Evening, Rev C Kenny.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL London: 8 HC: ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL London: 8 HC:
8.45 M: II S Euch. Orgelmesse (Schroeder).
Lux et origo (Plainsong), This joyful Eastertide (Wood), Rev J Halliburton; 3.15 E. The
Second Service (Gibbons), Surgens Jesus
(Philips, Rev C Burgess: 5.15 Organ Recital.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, WI: 8,5.15
LM: 10.20 MP: II HM, Darke in F, Rev I
Dattier, 6 Solenn E & B. The Eight, Sondon Davies: 6 Solemn E & B, The Fifth Service

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, WI: II Guest Service, Rev R Tree; 6.30 Rev Dr J Stort. THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, WI: Mass for four voices (Tallis). Maria Magdalene (Gabrieli). Love is come again

HC: !! M. O for a closer walk with God (Stanford). Mr J Watherston: 6 E. Rev Dr P. CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOT-LAND, Covent Garden, WC2: II.15 Dr P Green: 6.30 Mr T Fletcher.

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8,12,15

FARM STREET, WI: 8,930,11, Solemn Mass, Missa Caca (Morales). Cantate Domino (Reichel). Laudate Dominum (Mozart). 12.50, 4.15, 6.15 Mass. Road, SWT: 9 ASB HC, Rev S Downham; 11

Informal, Rev J Peters: 5,730 Informal, Rev N ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns. W& II Holy Mass. Archbishop

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodisil, SWI: 10 HC: 11 Rev Dr P Graves; 6.30 Rev Dr P Graves.

SAINT ALBAN'S, Chatham, Kent: 9.45 MP 10.30 Sung Mass & Sermon. ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St. EC2: II Choral HC, Rev P Schmiege: 7 Lutheran Choral Vespers, Rev P

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT. Smithfield, ECI: 9 HC; 11 M & Baptism, Stanford in C. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanford). The Rector, 6.30 Choral Euch, Missa Maria Magdalene (Lobo). Ave virgo sanctissima (Guerrero). The Rector. sanctissima (Guerrero), The sector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: If Choral M
& Euch, I was glad (Parry), Mozart in B flat,
Laudate Dominium (Mozart), How beautiful
upon the mountain (Stainer), 6.30 Choral E,
Stanford in G, Christ being raised (Moore),
Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley).

ST CLEMENT DANES: II Choral M. Te Deum and Jubilate (Ireland in F), Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanford). Rev R Noble. ST GEORGE'S, Harrover Square, WI: 8.30 HC: II S Euch, Whitlock in G, The Rector. ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 Choral M (1602), E Griffiths, Reader.

ST JAMES'S. Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Congregational singing, Rev A Meldrum: 6 E. ST JAMES'S. Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; II S Euch, Rev D Reeves: 5.45 EP. ST JOHN'S. Stratford Eis: 11 Family.

Prelude & Fugue in D (Bach), Rev D Richards; 6.30 HC, Rev D Richards. ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HE 9.45 Family C: 11 S Euch, Merbecke, Rev 7 Devonshire Jones.

mously, to Professor

Harding.

ST MARGARET'S. Westminster, SWI: II S Euch, Missa boovis (Walton). Let all the world (Walton). Rev Dr P Bradshaw.

Wantin, Rev Dr Fotshaw.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2 8
HC: 9-15 Eucly, Rev B Schmemann: 11.30
Visitors, Rev C Herbert, 2-15 Chinese, Rev G
Lee: 5 Choral, E. 6-30 Evening, Rev B Schunemann.
ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensing-

ton W8: 812.30 HC: 9.30 Euch, Rev R Gelli; 11.15 Choral M. Rev F Gelli; 0.30 E. Mr. N 11 HM, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina): 6

Soleran E & B.
ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC: 10.30 Parish Euch, Rev D Jones; 6 Prayer & Meditation. ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8 & 9 HC: 11 S

Euch, Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SWI: 8.15 HC: 10
Family: Il S Euch. Missa Brevis (Palestrina).
Steft Jesus (Regnard, Concerno in C (Bach), Fr

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W Keyes. ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 11-MP, Rev G Ballard: 6.30 E, Rev B Hughes. ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: !! Solemn Mass, The Bishop of London.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA HM Tower of London: 9.5 HC:

II M & Sermon. Te Deum. Benedictus
(Harwood in A flat). Christ rising again.
(Byrd). Carnon J Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL St James's Palmee 8.30 HC: II.15 MP. Let God arise (Locke), Canon J

Colling.
CHAPEL ROYAL Hampton Court Palace:
8.30 HC (1662); If M, Wood in E, The Lord is
King (Boyce); 3.30 E, Let God arise (Locke);
Let us now laud (Mundy).
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley
Street, WI: 8.15 HC; If S Euch, Rev S Hobbs.
THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8
HC: III S MB. To Down Lockeston (Wood in HC; II.15 MP, Te Deum Laudamus (Wood in E). Jubilate Deo (Wood in G), Woman why weepest thou (Schulz), The Master. GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SWI: II M. Most glorious Lord of lyfe (Lord). Band of the Grenadier Guards, Rev J Gough; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL Greenwich. SEI0: 11 S Euch (BCP), Darke in F, If we believe (Goss), Rev C French.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

FAX: 0171 481 9313

BMD'S: 0171 680 6880

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000 Be rooted in Cartst, be built in him, grow strong in the fasth. 25 you were taught: let your bearts overflow with

hearts overflow thankfulness. Colossians 2 : 7 (REB) BIRTHS AlDERSON - On 5th April 1996. to Kirstin (née Savenson) and Alexander, a son. Harry Alexander John, a brother for Katharine. Lucinda and Robert. BEAMISH - On 10th April to Emma (née Van den Bergh) and Devid. a brace of hens. Georgie Ann and Tara Betty. Beffw000 - On 1st April to Michelle (née Robinson) and Richard. a son. Benjamin James.

James. HRKIN – On 28th March at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Abby, a son, Antony David James.

DENMAN - On March 30th 1996, to Carina (née Smith) and Nicholas, a daughter Alexandra Katherine Emily a sister for Sophie. a sister for Sophie.

DOGGART - On 11th April to
Antonia (née Ross) and
Simon, a son. James Henry
Alexander, a brother for
Clare and Charles.

GARVEN/FIELD - To Maxine
and Curis, a son bore April
10th, at St Mary's, Mayday
Hospital. Croydon. A first
son.

DIAMOND GREGORY - To Victoria **ANNIVERSARIES** BALDRY-FROST - On April 13th 1936 at \$1 Mary's Church. Kenninghail, Norfolk. Jack Baldry to Ruby Prost. now at Badingham, Suffolk. Congrabilations and love from all the family.

Hong Kong, on 11th Abril, 2 son. Benjamin William HOOGSON - On April 4th 1996. to Peter and Kimberiey (née Reeves), a son, Gregory Maithew. BIRTHS On April 10th a daughter Sophia Charicles to Prince and Princess Dimitri Lobanov-Rostovsky, a sister MCKINSTRY - On April 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Thomas and Pantela, a daughter, Megan Ezzabeth.

OWIEN - On 6th April, to Nici and Jame, a daughter. Ann Charlotte Louise READ - On 6th April 1996, to Rachel (née Wilmot) and Alian, a beautiful daughter. RICE - On April 11th. to Caroline (née Miller) and James, a daughter, Georgia Alexandra.

STORRIE - On Easter morning at The Portland Hospital. to Fiona (née Hodge) and Douglas, a daughter, lona Lucy, a sister for Alice Louisa. SWENDLEY - On April 9th 1996 at Epsom General Hospital, to Kalpana (née Subramaniano) and Nigel, a gorpeous son, Jake Navem, a brother for Oscar.

BOND - Suddenly but peacefully at home on 9th April. Carolyn Mary Bond (Eminy), aged 53. Loved wife of Alec. dearly loved mother of Will. Funeral Service at St Mary the Virgin. Thereford, near Banbury. Carlordshire on Friday. 19th April at 3pm. followed by inherment in the churchyard. Family flowers only please, but donations for Thereford Church may be sent to JeM Humphris. Albert Street, Banbury.

DEATHS

BOMPAS - On April 11th. Dorothy, for over 56 years wonderful and loved Wife of Mervyn. Private cremation. No letters or messages.

COGNESH - Ames Marte the Tiptato. Widow of Howard and late of Eaton, Appleton and Common, very peachtly at St John's Home. Oxford on Easter Monday April Sth. just after her 102nd birthday. Dearly loved and loving wife, mother, greatgrandmother, great-aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-grandmother, great-grandmother, great-grandmother, great-aunt and friend. Thankingfung Service following burial, at Trinity Methodist and U.R.C. Church, Conduit Road. Abingdon at 2.50 pm on Wednesday April 17th. Family flowers only. Any donations in her memory will be devided between the Scripture Union and the Bible Society and can be sent c/o Edward Carter, 107 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QS.

PERSONAL COLUMN DEATHS COVELL - On April 10th peacefully at home Irene Mary aged 91, wife of the late Eric Covell.

GIBSON - Pencefully at home, Sylvia, widow of Sir Lestie Ginem KC. Dearest sister of Stella. Service at Christ Church. Shamley Green at 11 am on Monday. 22nd April. Flowers to Aylings. 28-27 South Road. Guildford. GU2 SNY. Tel: (01483) S67333. GULLIVER - Joan, peacefully at home in Crail on April 10th 1996, after many years of physical suffering stoically borne. Deeply loved by Nell and John and her family. Funeral Service at the Crematorium Kirkcaldy on Tuesday 16th April at 2.50pm.

HAYMAN - Syivia Many on 11th April 1996. Much loved and cherished wife of Perceval and mother of Caroline. Funeral at Ali Saints Church. Mapperion. Beaminster, Dorset on Friday. 19th April at 2.30pm. Flowers to the Church or tel: (01308) 425726. HOWARD - Greg. On Wednesday 10th April. Much loved son of Fran and Lymes and brother of Pinith. Family cremation. Thanksylving Service 11.30 am Tuesday 16th April St Simon Zables. corner Miner and Moore Streets, Chelsea.

DEATHS HUSBARD - John Louis Pelham on April 10th aged 41 years, dearly loved only son of Ethne and Jesper and brother of Charlotte and Brose, Private cremation, No nowers, Service of Thanksgiving to be amounted. announced.
KINGSTON

Abercromble MC peacefully in his sleep at Harwood House Nursing Home, after a long illness borne with long illness borne with enormous courage, beloved husband of Christine, much loved father of Jane, Sue and Chippy and devoted grandfather to his seven grandchildren. Family cremation at Slough Cremation on Friday 19th April at 230 pm, followed by a Satvice of Thanksgiving at St Nicholas Church. Taylow Village at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Maldenhead Multiple Scierosts Society c/o The Setretary, 31A Furze Platt Road, Maddenhead S.6 7NE.

Maddenberd, SLG TNE.

MLEIN - Josephine Perfix died
on April 11th aged 67.
Funeral (no black; smail
bunches of flowers only) will
be held at St Marylebone
Crematorium, East Finchley.
11.20 am Wednesday April
17th. 11.30 am Wednesday April 17th.
LEBUS - Angela Mary on April 12th. died unexpectedly but very peacefully at home. Funeral al Golders Green Crematorium on Thursday April 18th at 11 am. Further details coulact J.H. Kenyon Funeral Directors on (0171) 229-3810.

DEATHS LEIGH - Morris. On April
11th. beloved husband.
father, grandfather, greadgrandfather and friend.
passed away whilst at
prayers in Synagogue.
Funeral has taken place.
Prayers al home at 8 o'clock
this week until Wednesday
evening inclusive

LEVY - Sir Ewert Levy, Bt. Peacefully on April 11th 1996, aged 98 years, Private family cremation. Thanksgiving Service at 32 Marry's Church. Weston by Weiland, Laicestershire on Wednesday April 17th at 2,30 pm. All enquiries to A.C. James & Son Funeral Directors, 30 St Stephen's Road, Leicester, tel: (0116) 2542900.

Liley - On Easter Sunday, at The Araya and Bute Hospital Lochgliphead. Derek Harold, aged 67, Dearly loved husband of Barbara, devoted father of Michael and Richard, loving grandfather of Ruth, Tessa and Helen, Service at St Margaret's Catholic Church Lochgiphead, on Thursday 18th April at 11 am. "May he rest in peace". Flowers and enquiries to Donald MacDonald, "Burnside", Lochgliphead, Argyli, tel: (01546) 60-2226 or. if preferred, donations to Argyli and Bute Hospital, Lochgliphead.

DEATHS

LYDALL - Major Edward Lydail MBE on April 10th peacefully after a short limes aged 84, two years after his cherished wife Hilary. He will be much missed as head of his family by his daughters Jill and Nicola. granddaughters Cluga. Jane. Joanna and Janice and sons-tn-law. David and Christopher. Edward's school days were the standard of the school days were the school days as a coffee broker in the City took thin on frequent travels to E Africa. S America and Europe. There will be a private family cremation followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church. Walton-on-the-Hill on Friday. April 19th at 3.30pm. Pampy flowers only please but donations to the Epsem General Hospital Medical Equipment Fund c/o W.A. Truckove & Son. 118 Carsbalton Road. Sutton. SMI 4RL would be both welcome and well deserved.

welcome and well deserved.

MACCAW - Commander
Brian, D.S.C., R.N.R., Died
peacefully on 12th April
1996 at the Pitgrims Hossice
in Camarbury. Dearly loved
by his wife Tonia, his
children Robin. Emma and
Amanda and his
grandchildren Marina and
Joe. Fatinful friend to many.
Funeral at St Mary's,
Chartham on Friday 19th
April at 14.50. Funeral
Directors C.W. Lyons and
Son. (01227) 463508.

DEATHS OSBORNE - Muriel May peacefully on April 5th aged 92. teacher at Doncaster St Many's. Wantage. Golidford and Portsmouth Girts' High Schools. Dearty loved end missed by her large frently and many friends. Funeral at Pulney Vale Cemetery on Wednesday April 17th at 12.15 pm. Enquiries Clement (01372) 726672.

PATON - On 10th April peacefully in Lymington, Sundy, loved husband of the late Murie and Eather of Jain, All enquiries on (01734) 384809 STAINTON - Peacefully on April 10th, Jacqueline Mary Stainton M.B.E., aged 81 years. Despiter of the late Evelyn Stainton of Barban Court, Canterbury. Much loved sunt and great-auni.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

BANTOCK - Ted, April 14th 1986. "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die". Agnes. BIRCHETT - Stephen, died 13th April 1994 aged 38. We remember all the Joyful times we had together as a family. KIMITSUKA - Yoli 24.3.32 -14.4.92. Many friends remamber with love and thanksplving her life of art.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

LAURENCE - G.W. April 14th
1993. My dear mother
remembered with love and
respect. Clare.

PAWLE - Prederick Stracham.
In lowing memory of a kind
and hospitable cousin with
whom we spent many bappay
hours. Fred and Maureen
Pawle and their children
Michael and Jenuy. Predde
and Erin. Australia.

WHITE - In everloving
memory of my dear brother
william George who fell
sikep 13th April 1986 and
elso my dear father William
deromy dear April 1986.
Mary White. Stoneford
Cottage.

WOOD - James 29/5/66

Cottage.

WOOD - James 29/5/66 13/4/86. You are always in
our hearts, thoughts and
prayers, especially today.
You ware a wonderful son. never forget you. R.L.P.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Winser - C.A.P. The Thanksgiving Service for Andrew will be in St Mary's Church, Ferdingeridge, on Friday May 3cd at 3 pm. FOR SALE COMPLETE BET of Switzenhild srimmal editions plan Engle. Please Region in Boar No. 4949.

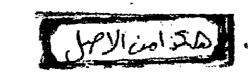
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VICE-ADMIRAL JOHN BULKELEY

Vice Admiral John Bulkeley United States Navy, wartime PT Roaf commander, died on April 6 aged 84. He was born in New York on August 19, 1911.

ONE the US Navy's most decorated veteraris of the Second World War. John Bulkeley was the quintessential PT Bost man, the exploits of whose squadron in the Philippines in 1942 were memorably described in W. L. White's book They Were Expendable (1942) and later re-enacted by Robert Mentgomery and John Wayne in John Ford's classic film of the same name. Perhaps Bulkeley's most nota-ble mark on events was his evacuation in March 1942 of General Douglas MacArthur from Corregidor to unoccupied Mindanao, from where he and his party were airlifted in two Flying Fortresses to safety in Australia. It was on landing that MacArthur, with his flair for public relations, made his famous "I will return" declaration. In those dark hours, such an eventuality seemed remote; but MacArthur was to discharge his promise when he came ashore again in the Philippines early in

But for Bulkeley and his six-boat squadron this was actually merely one epsode in five months of constant action against the Japanese. In the dreadful months of early 1942, when Allied land, sea and air power seemed doomed to be swept from the Pacific theatre by the Japanese onslaught, the fast Patrol Torpedo Boats were involved in some desperately brave actions against much superior forces.

Boy of B

on murder

charge

Graduating from the Annapolis Naval Academy in 1933, Bulkeley was a young lieutenant in the Pacific Fleet at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Commanding a group of PT Boats, he took part in the defence of the Philippines against the Japanese.

The fall of the islands was a painful episode in the life of the American Caesar, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur Despite improvisation, great courage and some reinforcements, muddle and indecision allowed Japanese air power a free hand in wiping out Clark Field as well as other American airfields and bases. Nevertheless the Japanese assault was resisted for far longer in the Philip-pines than anywhere else in the Pacific and South-East Asia theatre: Corregidor actually held out until May 1942. Although perceived as a severe blow at the time, the five-month defence of the islands had badly disrupted the Japa-nese timetable, since General Homma half been allocated only 50 days to complete the campaign (Malaya and Singapore had been conquered in two months). By the time it fell, the US Navy was almost ready to go on to the counter-offensive, and the Japanese were soon to experience the reverses of

During the struggle for the Philip-pines, President Rossevelt repeatedly ordered MacArthur to turn his command over to General Wainwright and



leave, in order to be available to take charge of the build-up and retaliation. It was like ordering a captain to be the first to leave a sinking ship; MacArthur, with his strong West Point notions of honour, had pledged himself to die with his men.

Nevertheless he was eventually persuaded; and with the naval C-in-C, Admiral Chester Nimitz, and their brilliant galaxy of subordinates, Mac-Arthur subsequently planned and executed what informed commentators judge to be the most strategically inspired campaign in history - the defeat of Japan in the Pacific.

Bulkeley had already distinguished himself in a number of actions against invasion shipping off Bataan, all of which were conducted in circumstances of the greatest difficulty. His squadron's supply base had been completely destroyed in the Japanese bombing raid on Cavite on December 10. 1941, and they were left without spare engines. Ammunition for the PT Boats' 50-inch machineguns had to be scrounged from whatever units army, navy, marines or air force could be persuaded to part with it. In addition, all its 100 octane fuel had been adulterated with a wax by a pro-Japanese saboteur, so that the boats' carburettors and filters needed to be cleaned after two hours' running.

Without any shore backup all mechanical and electrical repairs and maintenance had to be done by the officers and men of the squadron in isolated, mosquito-infested inlets, frequently under sudden and violent enemy air attack. It was a tribute to Bulkeley's courage and to his engineering background that his boats continued not only to function but to fight and cause severe harassment to the invasion forces.

MacArthur himself described the

bearded and swashbuckling PT Boat commander officer as "Johnny Bulkeley, that bold buckgroo with the cold green eyes". By contrast, Bulkeley remembered MacArthur on the emlooking emaciated in his worn khaki. his face deadly white, and a nervous twitch at the corner of the mouth.

The passage from Corregidor to



Well, I'm home": General MacArthur in April 1945 on Corregidor from where he had been evacuated by Bulkeley, left, in 1942

Mindanao was made in very rough weather, in which it was vital to anticipate and avoid Japanese warships and aircraft. All the party were seasick. But three of Bulkeley's four PT Boats survived the passage through 600 miles of enemy-held waters, in spite of the fact that their speed was much diminished by their makeshift engine maintenance and lack of spare parts.

For his service in the defence of the Philippines, Bulkeley was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration. In 1943 he played his part in breaking through the barrier of the Bismarck Archipelago and the invasion of New Guinea, shooting up Japanese supply convoys and strafing shore installa-tions. On one occasion, he sent a boarding party in old navy style to capture a ship that would not sink. Moving to the European theatre in

1944, Bulkeley, now a lieutenantcommander, took part in the invasion of Normandy, where he commanded a group of PT Boats and minesweepers in support of the landings at Utah Beach. Later in June, when the forts on the digue, the big outer breakwater of Cherbourg harbour, were proving obstinate, he took PT-510 with PT-521 in company to try and quell them with machinegun fire. From ranges as close as 150 yards and drawing a deluge of 88-mm shells down in its vicinity. Bulkeley's boat had to circle the damaged PT-521, laying a smokescreen while repairs were made. Next day, the forts eventually capitulated after repeared bombing by aircraft.

Bulkeley's next action was in support f Operation Dragoon, the Allied 1944. Commanding the destroyer Endicott and the British gunboats Aphis and Scarab with a number of PT hoats. he controlled the Western Diversion-

ary Group. (His opposite number in the Eastern Diversionary Group was a certain Lieutenant-Commander Douglas Fairbanks Jr.) While bombarding the coast near La Ciotat in order to mislead the enemy about the real invasion point, Endicott intercepted and sank the German ships Capriola and Ninet Allah, the first an ex-Italian corvette and the second a former Egyptian armed yacht. After this action Bulkeley's force rescued 200 survivors.

Bulkeley's other awards included the Navy Cross, two Army Distinguished Service Crosses, a Distinguished Service Medal, two Silver Stars, two Legion of Merit awards and the Purple Heart.

In 1961 President Kennedy (who had been a PT Boat officer junior to Bulkeley in the Pacific) appointed him commanding officer of the Guantanamo base in Cuba. It was during the period of rising tension that was later to culminate in the missile crisis of October 1962.

Fidel Castro tried to get the US to abandon the base by, among other measures, building machinegun positions overlooking the perimeter and shutting off the fresh water supply. Bulkeley told reporters that the machine-gun emplacements were useless and referred to them as "Cuban landscaping". When, subsequently, Castro offered to turn the water back on for half an hour each day, Bulkeley told him not to bother — he had already made other arrangements.

Bulkeley originally retired from the

Navy in 1974 as president of the Navy Board of Inspection and Survey, but was later retained on active duty and continued in that position until 1988. having completed 55 years' naval service.

He is survived by his wife Hilda and their five children.

DARIO BELLEZZA

Dario Bellezza, Italian poet and novelist, died of an Aids-related disease in Rome on March 31 aged 51. He was born in 1944.

BOYS, literature, cats" these were the self avowed loves of Dario Bellezza, who in both verse and prose explored the often desperate and squalid lives of young homosexuals. preying or being preyed upon, on the streets of Rome. Like the heterosexual Alberto Moravia, whom he first admired and later castigated as "bourgeois", the city of Rome and the ceaseless trade in human flesh plied on its pavements is in the very sinews of his work. But unlike Moravia, and instead like Per Paolo Pasolini, whose fate -sordidly battered to death by a reluctant pick-up in a Rome parking lot - he managed to avoid, the homosexual component of that trade is germane. For Pasolini, Bellezza was simply "il miglior

Belleza gained an entry into literary life when, on impulse on a day in 1965, he knocked on the door of the writer Enzo Siciliano, brandishing a type-script. Profoundly impressed by what he read, Siciliano introduced the young writer to the novelist Elsa Morante (who was for a time the wife of Alberto Moravia) and later to Moravia himself. Later he met Pasolini. These introductions opened the pages of Moravia's periodical Nuovi Argomenti to him, and it was there that his first, highly explicit, poems were published.

There was something selfconsciously "naughty" about these, with their use of the Italian equivalents of fourletter words to describe Bellezza's amorous experiences. Yet when Bellezza's first novel, L'innocenza (innocence) was published in 1970. it surprised readers by the chastity and restraint of its language. Nino, a 15-year-old orphan boy, comes home from boarding school to find that his only relations, three aunts, have disappeared. From then on he is left to wander through a Rome whose streets and

The influence of both Mora-via and Pasolini could be seen in this. Indeed, to the self contradictory mind of Pasolini (known far too exclusively in as the maker of films such as 120 Giorni di Sodoma, and not enough for his provoking poetry and novels) Bellezza's

piazzas have taken on the

surreal quality of one of de

Chirico's urban landscapes.



work, steeped as it was in teasing paradoxes, was partic-ularly congenial. And yet it was the Perugian poet Sandro Penna, whose taste for biting. malicious gossip he shared, with whom he had the greatest affinity. Like Penna, too, he preferred the company of his fanciulli (lads) to that of writers and critics.

L'innocenza was followed by Lettere da Sodoma (1972, Letters from Sodom), again a carefully crafted and obviously "literary" performance.

Bellezza's first collection of poems was Invettive e Licenze (1971. Invectives and Lasciviousnesses), a volume which immediately set him apart from most of his contemporaries. In marked contrast with what is recklessly suggested by the title, the tone is one of almost Calvinistic moral severity.

Nevertheless, Bellezza's plain, unadorned words, explore an abyss of spiritual suffering. The following is characteristic:

Dio! Non attendo che la Ignoro il corso della storia. la bestia che è in me e latra

I am ignorant of the course of history. I know only the beast which is in me and barks.i

When Bellezza published his next novel Il carnefice (The Executioner) in 1973, critics were aware of a greater simplicity and directness in his approach. The work appeared to have gained from the greater freedom of his poetry, and turned its back on the conscious polish of the earlier novels. In its claustrophobic, self-indulgent eroticism it invited comparison with the Cena Trimalchionis of Petronius, although the geniality and good humour of the latter was never one of Bellezza's

Il carnefice presented a garish and compelling - if morbidly Kalkaesque - account of a world populated by drug addicts and slaves to sensuality. Yet, in keeping with Bellezza's early, innate Calvinism, the characters in the book are persecuted by two mysterious moral agents, executioners who represent the carnefice of the title.

If unlike Penna or Cavafy (the greatest of the century's homosexual poets). Bellezza failed to transcend his own lavishly sado-machochistic world, within his genre he was undoubtedly a complex and haunted writer.

Certainly he never sought to his condition. A few days before his death, he said of his fate: "Il mio Aids, punizione di

PEARL PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE

Pearl Pleydell-Bouverie. mother of Lord Montagu of Beauliers died on April 10 aged 101. She was born on January 6, 1895.

PLEYDELL-PEARL BOUVERIE was the widow of the 2nd Lord Montagu of Beaulieu. Her first husband was thirty years her senior and, when he died in 1929, he left his young widow to run a large estate, as well as bring up a young family singlehanded. She rose to the chailenge magnificently.

She also, from the age of ten. kem a diary, noting down her impressions of two world wars, numerous foreign trips and her life as stewardess of Beaulieu with a meticulous and witty eye. This meant that much later in life, she was "discovered" by historians. Earlier this year, she could be seen in a recent television interview, sitting bolt upright and discussing very livently

SERVICES

SITUATIONS

the hazards of the early days of motoring.

Alice Pearl Crake was the daughter of a major in the Rifle Brigade. One of her earliest memories was as a five-year-old, waving a tiny Union Jack to celebrate the relief of Mafeking. Her father died when she was young, and she was brought up, as a result, to be more sensible of financial matters than some of her peers. While her friends were visiting couturiers in Paris, she found a local dressmaker to copy the fashions. She was educated at private school in London and came out in 1913. She was ignorant of world politics as a girl having led, in her words, a "spoilt" life. But she recorded in her diary the following year reading the "sad" news that Archduke Francis Ferdinand had been assassinated.

The war changed her life irrevocably as friend after friend was killed. One of these

was Harry Cubitt, eldest son of Lord and Lady Ashcombe, to whom she was unofficially engaged, and who fell on the Somme. At the beginning of the war, Pearl was living with her aunt and unde at Crathorne Hall in Yorkshire. Their house was turned into a convalescent home and Pearl, working as a VAD, belped to make the beds and to prepare food for the soldiers. One day she saw from her window a zeppelin being shot down in the sea off Hartlepool. Later in the war she returned to London and found work as a filing clerk in the War Office,

working in Intelligence. In 1920 she visited the South of France with her mother, and there met her first husband, the recently-widowed 2nd Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, who was staying in the same hotel. She became his second wife in August that year at St Margaret's, Westminster.

The second baron was a motoring enthusiast and actively involved, through his seat in the House of Lords, with improving road conditions for cars. He drove his wife (who learnt to drive) in a Rolls-Royce across Europe, Persia and Palestine, and in 1922 over the frontier into India. This coincided with the visit of the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VIII), and Pearl sat next to the Prince at dinner when she was staying with the Earl of Reading, then Vicerov of India.

In England she became an accomplished hostess. She loved sailing (being the founder of the Beaulieu River Sailing Club in 1931) and raced during Cowes Week with King George V in his yacht Britan-nia. He presented her with a brooch to thank her. Oueen Mary was not so enthusiastic about boats, and would spend time quietly at Beaulieu, to get away from the crowds.

TRUSTEE ACTS

BOWDEN, ADRIAN HARGED
HOUSTON of SUCKNET, MANOR, RUCESTER, OXFORDSHIPE
COGS 91.5 AND 35 GEOGYPNOR
SQUARE, LONDON W1X 91.1
died on 17TH OCTOBER 1995
periculars to PAYNE HEXAS
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SQUARE, LENCOLING INN.
LONDON WCZA 3QQ belove
LATH JURE 1996

halfreit. Honoria. Honozett.
Lage of himon Hall, Millous
Bramiston, Caushra (formerly of
1 Sheiver, Creek Sheivers Way,
Tadwarth, Surrey and of The
Nock, Billouries, Sillout Combress
(Widow), Died 19th August 1995.
Participars to Stack Graf & Co.
14/15 College Creomit, London
NWS SLL before 7th June 1996.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The 2nd baron died in 1929, leaving Pearl with four children under the age of eight to bring up alone, and to run the estate until her son Edward could legally inherit at the age of 25. The estate - which had been in the family since the 16th century - was vast, then consisting of more than 10,000 acres. Fortunately, Pearl had with her a very able agent, Captain Harry Widnell, and the support of the trustees.

She proved to be methodical and conscientious in all business dealings, and coped well, being aided by the high regard in which she was held by the local people. She could remember the names of all the families on the estate - not because she felt she ought, but because she was genuinely interested in other people's lives. In 1930 she succeeded her husband as a Beaulieu church warden, and was still active in her post until last year. This made her -- with 65 years' service - probably the longest serving warden in the Church of England.

In 1936 she married Captain the Hon Edward Pleydell-Bouverie, brother of the 7th Earl of Radnor, whom she had met briefly in India in 1922. They had a son the following year. Soon after their marriage, he was appointed commander of the royal steam



yacht Victoria and Albert. Occasionally King George VI and his Queen and the two young princesses would visit Beaulieu for picnics on the beach, or in the New Forest.

During the war a number of houses on the estate were used by the SOE, and Beaulieu also became the centre of local airraid and Red Cross operations. Pearl Pleydell-Bouverie co-ordinated affairs while her

husband was at sea. The local hospital supply depot was stationed in her drawing

from the bombing of Portsmouth. In 1951, a few months before she relinquished stewardship of the estate to her son Edward, her second husband died, and she moved to the Lodge on the Beaulieu estate.

room, and she found accom-

modation for young evacuees

She was, initially, not too impressed by her son's growing collection of vintage cars. which were originally housed in the hall of Palace House: "I was frightened by the smell of petrol."

She spent her last half-acentury immersed in work for local organisations: the Women's Institute, the British Legion, the Girl Guides. At the age of 90, she was still insisting on running mealson-wheels to people who were some years her junior. She continued to entertain and to go to parties, and visited Texas every year, where one daughter had settled and where she had many American friends. But her main interest was in her rapidly expanding family of grandchildren and greatgrandchildren.

She tried, as far as possible, to ignore old age and found the last few months of her life irritating, because she was unable physically to do the things she wanted. But her mind remained clear until almost the very end. She was determined to attend a church service this Easter, but, sadly, was prevented by her final illness.

Pearl Pleydell-Bouverie is survived by three daughters and one son from her first marriage, and by her son from the second.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Expedient to The Chairman, British Johless Ex-Service Mor's Association, c/o Michael ark pic, 90 West Schlindeld Loudon ECIA.

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LONDON PUBLIC GARDENS. When the area now being cleared in

Millbank-street is thrown into the Victoria Tower Gardens it will form the finest accession to the open spaces of Central London since the beginning of the century. Far down the river in East London there is every hope that the desolate but splendidly situated waste of the Shadwell Fish Market will before long be transformed into another public garden as part of the King Edward Memorial scheme. Though the Shadwell area is already being spoken of by anticipation as the Shadwell Park, it would be better named the King Edward Gardens; for when it is laid out it will possess some of the finest and most characteristic features of London public gardens, but in less degree those of a park.

Though the names of park and gardens are annlied rather indiscriminately to open spaces in London, especially those of middling size. there is an essential difference between them. Broadly speaking, parks are laid out in imitation of the country, while gardens deliberately include their London surroundings in their plan. Sometimes the country aspect of the parks is not so much imitated as preserved. The charm of Kensington Gardens-which are a true park, and not a

ON THIS DAY

April 13, 1912 经企业的

The writers opinions on the differences between gardens and parks may strike one as a trifle specious. In Shadwell the papers diktat was nearly observed - the area became Shadwell Gardens.

public garden like those on the Victoria Embankment—is a survival, carefully safeguarded, from old rural days. Whether this country aspect is old or new, it

has its peculiar advantages and drawbacks. Some of the larger London parks have a sense space and freedom which is out of all proportion to their extent and to the actual nearness of London all around. In Kensington Gardens this sense most haunts the glades not far from the sea-house, where the shadow of tree behind tree and the sunshine falling on the green clearings in their midst make almost a forest scene. Elsewhere it is due to the dim London atmosphere and some fortunate

contour of the soil. Regent's Park forms a wide and gentle depression; the eye wanders freely from the edge of the flower walk, near the Zoological Gardens, to the banks of the lake and the trees about Hanover Gate. Hyde Park, on the other hand, gains its greatest sense of space from a slight convex brow as one crosses from the Serpentine to the Marble Arch.

These hints of distant solitude and seclusion are the more arresting for their paradoxical contrast with their surroundings, and all the rural aspect of the London parks has to pay a penalty for its attraction by challenging a fatal comparison with the genuine country. With the public gardens it is otherwise. They make the best of London, rather than attempt to avoid or conceal it; and by adding grass and trees and flowers, and supplying a refuge from the noise and pressure of traffic, they often make a singularly attractive and individual whole. No London public garden is a better example of its kind than that below Charing Cross Station: yet certainly there is none more plainly in the very heart of London. A boy could throw a stone across it anywhere and yet its proportions give it a true sense of space. Close above it rise the great buildings of the Adelphi and the streets that run to Charing Cross; and the trains rumble in and out across

NEWS

Right calls for change

■ John Major faced a fresh outbreak of unrest in the Tory party as right-wing MPs demanded a change of direction in the wake of a devastating by-election setback.

Hours after the Labour Party inflicted a stunning defeat in the Staffordshire South East by-election, senior Conservatives issued a warning of further electoral losses unless new policies were introduced swiftly... Pages 1, 9

Thousands flee Israeli jets

■ Israeli helicopters and jets carried out a series of attacks on Beirut and other Lebanese towns and villages. Syria said one of its soldiers was killed and seven were seriously wounded at an air defence position in the Lebanese capital.... Pages 1. II

Teenager on run

A teenager accused of murder was on the run after escaping when a social worker took him to a swimming pool for a "mobility" programme

No change trains

Millions of commuters were condemned to travelling on 30-yearold "slam-door" trains for the foreseeable future by the new Page 2 French owners

Royal challenge

Prince Edward challenged the belief that the Queen Mother harboured a grudge against the Duchess of Windsor Page 3

Parents warned Schools are to be allowed to turn down pupils whose parents refuse

to accept policies on discipline, said Gillian Shephard Page 4 Children at risk Children who are involved in acci-

dents are more likely to consider

and solution will be published next Saturday.

Working class and sure of it

...Page 6

■ John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader who told the BBC that he was "middle-class" was rebuked by his 85-year-old father. John Prescott said: "How can he be anything other than working class? John worked as a steward on ships serving drinks. If that's not working class I cannot think what is"

Legal attack

The Lord Chief Justice launched a fresh attack on Michael Howard's sentencing proposals Page \$

Elgar letters

Letters by Edward Elgar, in which the composer discusses masterpieces such as The Dream of Gerontius are to be sold at Page 10

New Liberia crisis A US task force was heading for Liberia during a complete breakdown of law and order Page 13

Time to die A doctor in Darwin is about to launch a computer program that could soon become the Australian

way of deathPage !2 Girl pilot's death

The smiling face of Jessica Dubroff, who died in a crash while trying to become the youngest person to pilot a plane across America, adorned every US newspaper front page.

LETTERS

in the election ...

Vocal objections to Mary Stuart; social change and lottery; hymns to travel with: "feelgood factors: Tory blues: Vermeer: alternative . Page 21

OPINION

der voters are determined to

punish the Tories. They

believe little of what comes

from ministers Page 21

Peres bombs Lebanon: Mr

Peres faces a delicate equa-

tion: he must hit back at

Hezbollah or risk losing votes

.... Page 21

COLUMNS

THE TIMES TODAY

Anatole Kaletsky: The first of six articles of the most detailed scrutiny of Labour policy ever undertaken .. Page 20 John Redwood: The seats lost in by-elections in the last Parliament did not prove difficult to win back in the general election, but 1992 brought the majority down

OBITUARIES

with a bump......Page 20

Vice-Admiral John Bulkeley. PT Boat commander: Dario Bellezza, poet; Pearl Pleydell-Bouverie, mother of Lord Montagu..... Page 23

BUSINESS

Tony Blair, the Labour Party leader, with President Clinton in the Oval Office yesterday during his visit to Washington. Page 1

Lloyd's is confident of lifting its settlement offer above E3 billion, enabling it to reduce the burden of losses that have fallen on names...... Page 25 Power: Electricity shares

were ahead driven by reports that the MMC is to clear PowerGen's £1.9 billion bid for Midland Electric and National Power's £2.8 billion bid for Southern Page 25 Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 22.6 to 3766.8. Sterling was

unchanged at 83.6 after a fall

from \$1.5137 to \$1.5112 and a

rise from DM2.2719 to

CAR 96

...... Page 28 | Handling the Dodge Ram

Golf: Corey Pavin set the ear-

Rugby union: Vernon Pugh,

chairman of the International

Rugby Football Union and

Cricket: The Test and County

Cricket Board have decided

to take no action against Dev-

on Malcolm over his man-

agement criticism Page 48

par 66

ARTS

Sad spectacle: "Let's rely pace in the second round of suscitate the British circus," Richard Morrison the Masters with a six-under-Allen at war: Martin Sherman's Some Sunny Day, Board, is prepared to mediate deposits an alien into warin the dispute between the time Cairo... ..Page 17 Salad Daya: Julian Slade the senior clubs Page 48 will see his hit musical revived in the West End on the 42nd anniversary of its first night...... Page 19 Below age: Iain Robertson, Britain's newest film star, is so young that, at 14,

he is not allowed to see

Small Faces...... Page 19

Martial: The future of : tion movies Fashion: 40 pages of sizzling summer looks for ex-

WEEKEND

ery hot male

French revolution Page 1



Paul Heiney: How I intend to make real food .. Page 3 Books: Denis: middleclass adultery Pages 10, il

10 15

Win Sega Mega Drives the Toy Story gamePage 3 Join a sponsored swim

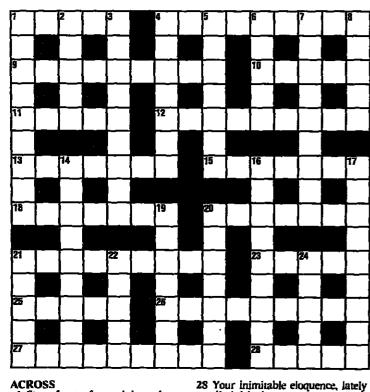


Gaby Roslin: Her_new chat show, Ch 4, 9pm Film of the week A Possage to India, today, BBC2, 4.10pm

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,141

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, willbe given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The winners

Name/Address



I Steer front of vessel into sharp bend on river (5).

- 4 Try to give a party (4.1.4). 9 Illumination from logs showing more than half of Ireland in conflict (9).
- 10 Record chemical salt in book? Just the reverse (5). 11 Some workshy drones employed in health centre (5).
- 12 City's crest wore out (9). 13 Foot and inch put in pattern (?).
- 15 Objectionable racket interrupted by order (7).
- 18 Undergo suffering to obtain re-ward (?).
- 20 Salad leaves with bits of endive and tomato - it could produce 9 21 Lad, disturbed, stole baby (9).
- 23 Worshipper of former emperor. a despot overthrown (5).
- 25 Extremely smart king presented it to unknown couple (5). 26 Young insect, one responsible for mess (9).
- 27 Withdraw finance money for-merly produced in changes (4-5).

Solution to Puzzie No 20.135

diminished, starts to return (5).

Unsatisfactory article girl is ready

direct course to follow (7)

becoming rigid (9).

glassware (7).

21 Brush to remove dirt (5).

5 Old surgeon has date with new (7).

6 Saw overseas lawyer in time (5).

7 A cricketer gets runs in defeat - a

very good score (9).

8 Habitat right for pigeon (5).

14 Vines clasp stick, all their centres

16 Result of one tiny beer? Rarely (9).

17 Disaffected red agents turned (9).

19 VIP was visibly hurt, disabled (7).

20 Offer for sale old, unfinished

22 Head off to cause trouble in store

24 Auction includes black, black fur

Solution to Puzzle No 20,140

DOWN

to wear (3.3.3).

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: G C Dickinson, Teddington, Middleser, A V Tobin, Northern Moor, Manchester, C H Davies, Brierley Hill, West Midlands; M Kennedy, Hersham, Surrey: C Vanstone, Mary Tavy. Devon.

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

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West Mrd & Sth Clarm & Gwent .
Shrops Herelds & Worcs
Certral Minlands
Lines & Humberside Gwynau N W England W & S Yorks & Dates

E England umbria & Lake District Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders Grampian & E Hightands N W Scotland

ss Orkney & Shetland...

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets 7.54 pm

London 754 pm to 6.07 am Bristol 8 04 pm to 6.17 am Edinburgh 6.16 pm to 6.09 am Manchester 8.07 pm to 6.11 am Penzance 8 13 pm to 6.31 am 2 Fed up with food in conversation 3 Suffering from 16 in spring, applied lubrication (4-5). Suffering from 16 means there's a

Sum sets: 7.56 pm Sum rises: 607 am Moon sets 4.00 pm London 7.56 pm to 6.05 am Bristol 8.06 pm to 6.14 am Edinburgh 8.18 pm to 6.07 am Manchester 8.09 pm to 6.09 am

HIGH TIDES

Deverport
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HIGHEST & LOWEST

FORECAST

DM2.2731 ...

General: showery with some bright spells. England and Wales will have rain or sleet at times — mainly over hilfs — becoming lighter during the day. There may be snow over north Wales. Eastern counties of England should be drier and brighter.

although it will be cold.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be cold. Northern and eastern Scotland will have bright spells, and perhaps some wintry showers. Other areas will have more cloud and rain or

🗋 London, SE England, Central S England: outbreaks of rain, becomlighter and more patchy easterly, moderate. Rather cold. Max 10C (50F).

to fresh. Rather cold. Max 9C (48F).

☐ E Anglia, E England, NE England, Borders: mainly dry, some bright spells. Wind easterly, moderate

☐ Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: mostly dry, some bright intervals. Wind variable, mainly north-westerly. Max 11C (52F). ☐ Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands: bright spells, some light wintry showers at

☐ E Midlands, W Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, isle of Man, Central N, SW Scot-

land, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: outbreaks of rain or siest, becoming

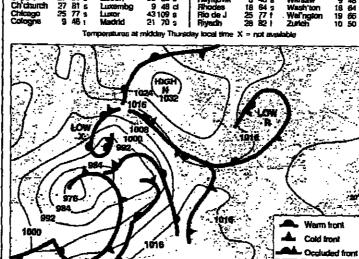
lighter Wind easterly, moderate to fresh. Cold. Max 9C (48F).

times. Wind easterly, fresh to strong. Cold. Max 8C (46F). Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: mainly dry, bright spells. Wind southeasterly. tresh to strong. Cold. Max 8C (46F) ☐ Outlook: cloudy, further rain at times especially in west. Becoming brighter in South East.

ABOUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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Changes to the chart above from noon; high N will remain slow moving with little change of pressure. Low R will drift southwards and slowly fill. Low X will track towards iceland and deepen slightly

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RDAY APRIL 13 IN

Anyone for Denis? Carol Thatcher's biography Page 11

PLUS: Betjeman on churches, page 11

TRAVEL



Sailing and savouring the exotic Caribbean Pages 16, 17

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FOOD



Paul Heiney raises the banner for home-made cooking

Page 3

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A new guide to arts and events nationwide

Pages 12, 13

PLUS: At Your Service, page 13

THE TIMES SATURDAY APRIL 13 1996

BOS: THE NEW ERENGE



by Kate Muir

his is not just a crisis — this is a revolution," announces Claude Lebey, France's equivalent of Egon Ronay. As with the last Prench revolution, blood must be spilt, and lined up before the guillotine are the aristocrats of cuisine, the grand chefs of Paris.

M Lebey, the Robespierre of gastronomy, is storming the ancien régime of restaurants stiff with etiquette and obscenely priced. He is leading the countercharge of the baby bistros — small restaurants opened in the 1990s by fine chefs — which are winning custom with their moderate prices and innovative cooking. While many of France's prestigious restaurants lie half-empty, the modern bistros have two-week waiting lists.

All around, the grand stars of the Michelin Guide are falling. Pierre Gagnaire's three-star restaurant in St Etienne was forced to close last month through lack of custom. La Tour d'Argent — a Paris landmark overlooking Notre Dame since 1582 — lost its third Michelin star last week. The chefs of La Tour d'Argent and the two-star Crillon are being investigated in a bribery scandal. Worst of all, the renowned Maxim's was demoted by the

investigated in a bribery scandal. Worst of all, the renowned Maxim's was demoted by the Gault-Millau Paris Guide from four toques (chef's hats) in its heyday to none at all.

Haute cuisine is suffering from a mouldering malaise. Food critics such as M Lebey say culinary evers and the days of the

Lebey say culinary excess and the days of "Let them eat cake" are over. The people have had enough cake and want bread, preferably

wholemeal and at sensible prices.

M Lebey's guides to restaurants and bistros are to Paris what the Zagat guide is to New York — indispensable and direct — or the Michelin Guide in this country. M Lebey himself is very much a gentleman, prone to properly long socks and well-cut jackets. He operates from an office overlooking the Parc Monceau, supplied with fine paintings and strong espresso. He is, without doubt, a man of discerning tastes.

is words can seal a restaurant's fate, either way. His present philosophy is this: "There was a golden age of restaurants in France when people went to eat well without even thinking of the price. Now they have become money-conscious like the Americans. and today there is no place for restaurants costing £60 to £100 a head. A few of the great three-star restaurants costing about £130 pounds a head will survive, as not just a culinary but a dramatic experience like going to the theatre, but that's it."

The symbolic battleground of the revolution is Maxim's, probably Paris's — and the world's — most famous restaurant. It opened on the Rue Royale in 1893 to cater to hansom cab drivers waiting on the nearby Place de la Concorde. A waiter called Maxim took over the business and turned the restaurant into the essential schmoozing and dining place for the aristocracy and the demi-monde.

Maxim's Art Nouveau wood panelling, stained glass ceilings and inlaid brass clocks surround banquettes previously occupied by Edward VII, Maria Callas (very fond of the pot-au-feu), the Duke and Duchess of Windsor (who ordered their game rare), Aristotle Onassis and Charlie Chaplin, the only man allowed entry without proper evening dress. The specialities were turtle

Continued on page 2, col i

GAMES 23

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IN: the relaxed L'Epi Dupin, and chef François Pasteau

Continued from page I soup and Merry Widow pan-

Now those decadent days are over. M Lebey says: "Maxim's has lost its soul." In response, Maxim's brought in a new-chef, but at 62 he was considered to be old blood rather than new.

At this point the battle became public, and rather violent. It was fought by means of open letters in the pages of Le Figaro. M Lebey struck the first blow in a letter to Pierre Cardin, fashion designer, logo salesman and owner of Maxim's: "If you want Maxim's to become, once again, a true Parisian institution, you must offer relatively classic, perfect cooking, with good wines at good prices, for £45 for lunch and £60 for dinner," prescribed M Lebey.

A scandalised M Cardin snapped back: "Maxim's will never become 'une gargote' - a rather grotty neighbourhood restaurant, with a steady daily clientele.

Maxim's makes it quite clear if you are the wrong sort of clientele, as we discovered last week. We got a reservation an hour before lunch with no trouble at all and, when we arrived, Maxim's was half empty. Of course, we had forgotten about the rules for proper dress — suits and ties. My companion did his best by borrowing my velvet scarf and wearing it cravat-style. The maitre d' spotted his guilty manner immediately and blocked our way. "What sort of trousers, exactly, is Monsieur wearing?" he said, peering down at his khaki chinos. The trousers were rumpled, but not jeans, so they passed muster. He was not

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fooled by the scarf. A basket of bow and regular ties was proffered, and we sheepishly followed the maitre d' - who reminded my companion strongly of his headmaster —

into the restaurant. We were placed side by side on a banquette in the "omnibus" section, so we stared out at the diners on the opposite wall. It was rather like being on the Tube, except everyone else seemed to be at least 70. It was by no means a hip and happening Parisian scene.

At last our waiter arrived with the card with the serious numbers: the salad was E19. the quail egg and caviare starter was £57, and main courses hovered around £35. The veg were £10.50. He greeted our choices (the cheapest) with an appropriately servile: "Très bien, très bien." For fun, we asked for the wine list, and irritated the sommelier by pondering a Petrus 1955 Pomerol at £1,307 before settling for a glass

of house white. The food, I have to say, was delicious. The atmosphere literally - was the problem. We were just tucking into delicate medallions of fish in a coulis of langoustines and basil when five fat businessmen at the next table simultaneously lit up five fat Havana cigars.

For roughly the price of the salad at Maxim's, I can have a three-course prix fixe dinner at my local bistro, L'Epi Dupin. while breathing and dressing freely. The menu there: fresh tagliatelle with salmon in basil and garlic; fillet of sea bream with mushrooms and virgin olive oil: soufflé crêpe with lemon flambéd in vodka.

Indeed, M Lebey made L'Epi Dupin his bistro of the year, first in his new category of "les bistrots modernes des cuisiniers malins" - bistros with smart, modern cooking. At under £40 a head and often

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town for the new bons vivants. Many of France's two and three-star Michelin chefs anticipated this trend and started opening baby bistros. There are 19 in Paris alone, a few in the provinces, opened by celebrity chefs such as Michel Rostang, Jacques Cagna and Guy Savoy. The staffing costs are much cheaper, and the saving is passed to the customer.

uriously, it is the same people that go to the baby bistro twice a week and occasionally to the grand restaurant which owns it. People who want to wear a cashmere pullover and jeans. not a suit." M Lebey says. He also acknowledges that today's customers are not merely intimidated but irritated by a flurry of servile men in tailcoats hovering at their table. They prefer a convivial, relaxed atmosphere."

Naturally, this change in popular taste is not merely a crisis for restaurateurs, but for the French nation: la gastronomie is part of la patrimonie and taken most iously. There have been

soul-searching debates in the press and protests by worried chefs under the Eiffel Tower. Even the culture minister, Philippe Douste-Blazy, has become involved, meeting M Gagnaire to discuss his threestar failure.

The problem is that the eating habits of the French have changed utterly over the past 30 years. In 1965, the average Frenchman spent two and a half hours at the table each day. Now he gobbles three meals in an hour and 20 minutes. No wonder the economic soufflé has collapsed. because the great restaurants are still catering for the past

rather than the present. Jean-Claude Vrinat of the three-star restaurant Taille-vent admits: "Frankly, we have had things too easy for the past three decades. We have to understand that the good days were the exception. not the rule. The French superiority complex is over. Now is the time for people to begin striving again."

Insider's Guide to Paris

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Bank

PARIS: WHAT'S IN AND WHAT'S OUT

Maxim's Reminiscent of an expensive wine which turns out to be pretty ordinary when opened and full of sediment. Worth checking out the wonderful Art Nouveau decor if someone else is paying. Dress code draconian, food pleasant. Clientele past their prime. 3 Rue Royale (00 33 1 42 65 27 94).

☐ Les Ambassadeurs Palatial room overlooking the Place de la Concorde. This was where Claudia Schiffer and David Copperfield got engaged, but that hip moment has passed. There is a Fr340 (£45) lunch menu for the "poor" during the week. Fole gras with fig purée: lobster medallions: marinated veal slices with a saute of asparagus and morille mushrooms, Gewürztraminer sorbet. Hôtel de Crillon, 10 Place de la Concorde

(00 33 | 44 71 | 16 | 16).

☐ La Tour d'Argent An institution more than a restaurant, with an incomparable view over the Seine to Notre Dame. For those (Japanese and Americans) who can still afford Fri.000 (E133) a head, the menu is rich and old-fashioned: three emperors' foie gras; Tour d'Argent duck (cooked in blood); crepes Belle Epoque. Has a fixed price lunch at Fr375 (£50). Lost its third Michelin star this year.

☐ L'Epi Dupin
The Lebey Guide's bistro of the year,
serving three courses and cheese for Fr153 (£20). Down a side street near the Bon Marche store and rather cramped. Book at least a week ahead, more for weekends, in order to experience the tuna pissaladière the weird stuffed apple, sliced potato and stem ginger starter - and the chestnut crèpe

(00 33 1 43 54 23 31).

Service can be a little slow 84 Rue de Varenne (00 33 1 45 51 47 33).

11 Rue Dupin (00 33 1 42 22 64 56).

Les Bookinistes One of chef Guy Savoy's baby bistros, it is named after the little bookstalls opposite along the Seine. Modern decor, trendy lighting and superb menu for Fri60 (£21) at dinner. Cannelloni of ratatouille with coriander, fish with leek confit and artichoke purée. Only problem is too many tourists. 53 Quai des Grands-Augustins 100 33 1 43 25 45 94).

🗔 Shozaz

Opened this year, and specialises in fusion food - French products cooked Japanese style. Run by Japanese distillers, with a French former model fronting the house, it offers consommé of warm foie gras, crunchy, lightly-sugared lamb, iced sake.

1! Rue de la Tremoille (00 33 1 47 23 37 32). Campagne et Provence

A simple interior like a Provence dining room, a quiet place with loud food such as chickpea blinis with crab; peppers and anchovies; crispy sea snails with parmesan and tomato confit.

25 Quai de la Tournelle (00 33 1 43 54 05 17).

□ L'Appart Haunt of fashion designers and models, this

deliciously pretentious restaurant is supposed to be like a cosy-but-tasteful apartment. You can choose to dine in the book-lined study, the salon or the kitchen. The food is New-York-style French - old favourites trendied up like brandade de morue (baked salt cod) with a red pepper coulis. 9 Rue Colisee (00 33 1 53 75 16 34).

☐ L'Arpège Bagged its third Michelin star while everyone else was dropping them, this is a modern streamlined place. Main courses hit up to £30 apiece, but there is a fixed price lunch at Fr350 (£46). Sole stuffed with ginger, lamb with grapefruit zest and mint; and sweet stuffed tomatoes for dessert.

Frances Bissell's recipes for bringing home the flavour of Paris **PAGE 79**

looking pairs.

IN THE MAGAZINE

DERWENT MAY ◆ What's about birders — listen for returning blackcaps singing its woods and gardens. Twitchers lesser scaup at Tytienhanger Pltt. Hertfordshire: lesser yellowlegs at Richmond Bank. Cheshire: subalpine warbler at Portland Bil Dorset. Details from Birdline 089 (700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at other times:

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Leylin Ja.

ble

In the

pecking order

Feather report

IT WAS very agreeable the other morning to see the old fashioned sight of some rooks and jackdaws feeding in a field with some cows. (Of course, it is the cow that is. about to become the old-

The rooks were walking

about sedately, poking their beaks deep in the grass, while

the jackdaws were moving

more briskly, picking up in-sects that had been disturbed

The rooks were not quarrelling, but it is known that there

is a "pecking order" in these

rook flocks, which determines

who gives way when two birds

are after the same morsel.

Large female rooks are partic

ularly tough with smaller ones. Up to a point, this bene-

fits the weaker bird as well as

the stronger, because no time is wasted in squabbling.

In fact, there were probably

very few female rooks in the field, because by now most of

them are sitting on eggs. The

males feed them on the nest.

and there was a steady traffic

of birds between the field and

a rookery half a mile away. Actually all rooks look rather

masculine, because they have

loose feathers on their thighs

I wandered over to the rook-

ery, in a mixed wood, with

some of the nests in oaks,

some in Scots pine trees. There

The rook: sedate

was an explosion of protesting.

cawing from the treetops at

the sight of me, but the rooks:

are fairly safe up there. How-

ever, there was a mysterious

report recently of rooks chas-

There have been some enor-

mous rookeries: in 1945, 6,985

nests were counted in a rookery

at Hatton Castle. Aberdeenshire. Currently, the British

rook population seems to be.

As for the jackdaws, with

steady at about 850,000 pairs.

their curious pale grey eyes.

they were still flying off from the field in couples. They have

chosen their nest-sites, in holes

in old trees or buildings, but

they will not lay for another few weeks. At present; when they are not foraging, they just

sit together in close, tender-

ing off bats at dusk.

like black plus-fours.

fashioned element.)

by the cows' feet.

47.5

'Cooking is becoming a mimsy, neurotic, clinical business ... I want to make real food. Home-Made is my battle cry'

ou have never seen a family as nervy as mine has been for the past six weeks. They jump whenever the phone rings, cower when the postman knocks, tremble at the sound of

my car arriving. They go to the windows and peer anxiously for signs of upheaval. It is understandable. They recall only too well the day, eight years ago, when I announced to a stunned household that I intended to become a farmer. Now that is

over, they fear what will come next. So did I - until recently. I had heard a rumour in the parish that I am taking the cloth. So I shall confess.

I am taking up the cloth - the dishcloth. Also the pan, grater, mincer and whisk. Gone is the tweed and corduroy cladding: I have bought myself a crisp, white apron. I've had my fill of the great outdoors. I want to come inside and get warm; but not lose that heady sense of closeness to the sources of life in the raw.

The decision happened by accident in a shop near here which sells wood-burning stoves. In these unlikely surroundings Cupid raised his bow and I fell deeply in love with an iron maiden - a half a ton of

Iron maiden has changed my life cast-iron vintage kitchen stove; coal-fired, black and adorable. Not a grand

kitchen range of the kind Mrs Bridges used to curse, but smaller; more for a cottage than a country house. On the left is what you might call the firebox, which is open-fronted to give a comforting view of the burning coals. Then there are bits that slide and deflect

reat to either the hotplate or the oven.

The inside of the oven is hardly browned. I assumed from its fresh-fromthe factory gleam that the stove was a reproduction. "No," the shopkeeper said. "Just never been used."

It seems the stove had been put into a small cottage after the war for a newly married couple. The bride, however, took one look at it and declared: "That's going." It was boxed in as part of a false wall. Two decades later my treasure was rediscovered. She is a virginal piece and, in the business of what Mrs B would call

so am I. But I know what I like and this stove - rejected by a woman - is going

to help a man to achieve it. I have this vision that one day we shall all sit round it and play happy families. It will probably be late on a Sunday afternoon in midwinter after we have stoked the stove to crisp the Yorkshire pudding, have eaten our roast beef lunch and flaked out in front of the embers. Around teatime. someone will remember the

tin of home-made crumpets. A rake around the grate to revitalise the coals and then we shall toast our crumpets and baste them lavishly with our own strawberry jam. Fanciful? Not entirely. The flame of family life has flickered



HEINEY

that running parallel to the decline has been the erosion of the family meal. Now, you can blame that on the burger bar, the microwave or the frenzied needs of individuals con-fronted with more choices than they have ever had before. But you can also place some of the blame on the kitchen. As kitchens have become nothing more than the final stage on a

and close observers notice

production line of overprocessed food, or the scene of a bit of weekend showing off by trendy hobby cooks, they are increasingly desolate places. Is it any wonder that the cooking and carving of meat is in decline when the modern kitchen feels more like an

a mimsy, neurotic, clinical business. We have to think temperature, sell-by-date, instructions and nutrition values. The day is not far off when the supermarkets will be offering us complimentary pairs of rubber gloves so that we avoid "unnecessary contact" with the fod.

y kitchen will be different. The comforting presence of the stove will see to that. We shall eagerly spoon our plates of sago pudding until they are squeaky clean, then push our chairs back from the table and spend a few moments contemplating the flicker of the flames. Who knows, we might talk a little, too. We shall have no need of Muzak; the large black kettle will sing to us from the hob and the equally large black cat will purr.

As for the food, there are few cookery writers who come anywhere near ad-

dressing my needs. They seem to be driven by a desire to convince us that there is no difference between home and restaurant food. What is the point in that? I do not want to sit down at my own table and eat a Polenta, Oyster and Aubergine Mousse, any more than I need the Roux brothers to serve bacon, eggs and fried bread. We must restore home cooking to its rightful place at the pinnacle and not in the pedal bin of fashion. And I mean cooking. I do not mean

that flimsy sort of cooking where we are invited to take a measly "half a skinless chicken breast and five drops of lime juice". I want to take raw, primitive, unpasteurised things with mud on them, and feathers. I want to make real food. Home-Made is my battlecry. My mind is turning over the possibility of jugged hare and junket, military pudding,

mulligatawny or madeira cake. I dare say there will be muttering from the family, but you may wish to follow my efforts week by week. if only to cut them out and stick them in a book to avoid ever after. I fear this week's recipe seems to be for Family Crumble.

A blend of tastes to keep all the guests happy

PASTEDOD: Vegetarian and carnivorous bosses

to dinner Dinner for six, including two vegetarians

Your two bosses are coming to dinner. One boss and her husband are vegetarian; the other boss and the rest of the guests are committed carnivores. This quick menu, cooked entirely after work,

Feta and mint salad Roasted peppers stuffed with goats cheese Apricot and amaretti prodding

WORK ORDER Lan red peppers

Turn on oven to 190C/350F/ Gas mark 4. Cut six red peppers in half through stems. De-seed. Put the pepper halves on a baking tray or oven-proof dish. Put two cherry tomatoes in each pepper. Put in oven and cook for 15 minutes.

■ Make apricot pudding Pour a 600g (Ilb 60z) jar apricot compote or 800g (lib 12oz) tinned apricots, drained, into a serving dish. Mix 500ml (18 fl oz) crème fraiche with 50g (2oz) sugar and 50ml (2 floz) sherry. Put on top of compote. Top with 100g (4oz) amaretti

biscuits. Put in fridge.

Shopping list

Savoury goods

500g (llb 2oz) fresh

I loaf French country

olive oil

tagliatelle

Sweet goods

apricots

Drink

600g jar apricot

50g (2oz) caster

compote/800g tinned

100g (40z) amaretti

70ml (2fl oz) sweet or

medium sherry

Fruit and vegetables large handful mint 6 leaves basil 400g (140z) prepared mixed salad l lemon

6 red peppers 24 cherry tomatoes (approx 250g/9oz) 300g (Hoz) trimmed sugar snap peas

100g (4oz) goats cheese 400g (14oz) feta cheese 500ml crème fraiche

4 boned, skinned chicken breasts

Make sajad

3 bottles chardonnay back in the oven for 20 minutes. Poke a knife into chicken to check that the juices run clear and that it is cooked. Turn the oven down to a warming temperature (100C/200F, gas

warm but do not continue to

cook. You may need to leave

the door slightly ajar until the

oven temperature drops.

a salad bowl. Crumble 400g (14oz) feta cheese into roughly

Roughly chop a handful of

mint leaves and mix with 400g

(14oz) prepared, mixed salad in

Finish red peppers Cut 4 boned, skinned chicken breasts in half and 100g (40z) goats cheese in four. Put a a teaspoon of olive oil on each with salt and pepper and the cheese with just pepper. Put

piece of chicken or cheese into the red peopers. Drizzle about pepper. Season the chicken

GUESTS ARRIVE ■ Serve starter Squeeze half a lemon. Toss salad with lemon juice and 3ths olive oil. Season with salt

and pepper. Serve with a large loaf of French country bread.

Put a large pinch of salt in a large pan of water and put it on to boil.

After first course

As the salad plates are cleared, put 500g (Ilb 20z) fresh tagliatelle and 300g (Noz) prepared sugar snap peas in the boiling water. Cook for four minutes. Meanwhile, put two pepper halves on each plate. Roughly tear 6 basil leaves and put on

olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Put a serving of the mixed pasta and peas on each plate.

Serve pudding Put pudding on table for guests to help themselves.

HATTIE ELLIS

peppers.
Drain pasta and peas. Toss together in a tablespoon of

In my experience, most of the new speciality breads are lousy value. Floyd's onion

costs £1.19.

DIGEST - THE GOSSIP ON FOOD

Lucky dip for fruit-lovers

JUST when you thought dips were naff, along comes the Dipping Strawberry, from (where else but) California. Actually Waitrose, which stocks this marvel, is very sober and serious and does not describe it as that on the pack. The store calls it an Extra Large Strawberry and boy, it certainly is.

You can fit only six in a 225g punnet (at a cost of £2.49 or 41.5p a strawberry). As the Waitrose strawberry buyer explained to me: "It's a bit like the old fondue really. You can dip them in white or dark chocolate." (Each monster has a stalk so your dinner party guests won't get messy.)
"At the foot of Mount Shas-

ta, in the sharp mountain sunlight, we and the earth are working on a miracle," burbles the accompanying bro-chure for the US market. Thanks are due not only to the men and women who love the land and coax the best out of it" but "technology such as our exclusive Bug Vac which actually vacuums plants to help us grow healthier, cleaner, more beautiful, pest-free fruit". It is a doddle, they assure us, "to fräiche as a dessert".

For those of you who are now confused as to what it is socially acceptable to dip - or rather plunk - here are some basic ground rules. Celery and crisps — definitely out. Tortilla chips — a bit ho-hum, but just about acceptable if you make your own fresh salsa. Strawberries -- OK, apparently. Toasted soldiers in eggs, fine (nursery food never goes out of style) but in the privacy of your own home please.

III bread

FOR BIG bakers suffering from the crisis in the bread industry, salvation is sitting on the shelves. It lies in the "speciality bread" market and in persuading us to buy bread to accompany a meal rather than just use it for toast and sandwiches. Bung in a few sun-dried tomatoes or olives and, instead of getting 49p a

loaf, you can charge £1.09. Even neater is the fact that these fancy breads are smaller than the average small (400g) loaf. (Exactly how small consumers do not have to be told. If a loaf is under 300g the manufacturers need not state the weight)

focaccia, for instance (part of the new Floyd on Bread range from British Bakeries), is described on the pack as an "authentic speciality bread" with "the flavour to transport you to the rugged Tuscan hills". In fact it is an appalling combination of under-cooked onion and pappy bread that no Italian would give house room to - it weighs 290g and

If you want to remind yourself what bread really tastes like, head for the newly opened London branch of De Gustibus. Until recently, its breads were available only to residents of Thame, near Oxford. The sourdough weighs in at 1,100g which, at £2.50, is a better ratio



The Dipping Strawberry, we are told, is perfect for "plunking". Each monster comes with its stalk attached

supermarkets offer. Most of the range costs even less. De Gustibus is at 53 Blandford Street, London WJ (0171-486 6608) and at 9 Greyhound Walk, Thame (01844 214040).

Ventreche? Eh?

CONFUSION reigns in the culinary world as to the definition of ventreche - a sexy new ingredient that has popped up on the menu of Marco Pierre White's Criterion. Hesitating to arouse the great man's scorn by my ignorance of its correct pronunciation. I dis-cover from his underling that it is not ham (as described on the menu) nor Italian (as I had sumed) but a superior kind of French bacon.

Eager to try some, I contacted the more superior charcuterie counters of London, ending up at the House of Albert Roux.

"Ow you spell zat?" asked the girl on the switchboard. "I geev you Roger, just a minute." Roger said they hadn't got any ventreche, but that basically it was the same as poitrine fumé, which they did stock. "Which part of France does it come from," I ask? "Well, actually, from Northern Italy." "Rubbish," says chels' suppliers Cutty Catering. "It's not the same at of crumb to the pound than all. Ours comes from a small

farm in the Pyrenees, where they cure their own sides of pork and pepper them. * Personally, I'd stick to bacon.

High tea

HIGHGROVE Breakfast Tea is one of 15 new food and household products with the Prince of Wales's imprint, including a range of teas from Formum & Mason, jams from Crabtree & and Evelyn and choccies from Charbonnel et Walker. Fortnum's says each product has been approved by HRH and that a peppermint tea was included at his request. Peppermint tea, accord-

medicine, is good for counter-acting stomach gas.

And avoid ... THE prize for the most point-

ing to my book of Chinese

less new product of the week

that you don't have to go to all that tedious trouble of cutting yourself a slice of cheese. breaking off a stick of celery and digging out a spoonful of pickle — it's all mixed in. The result is unspeakable.

has to go to Tesco's Vegetarian

Ploughman's Pâté. The idea is

FIONA BECKETT

Win a year's groceries, page 10

Chocolate Box JOY MOORE's 1657 Chocolate House in

Kendal, Cumbria, is the only chocolate house in England, Alex Wijeratna writes. Her drinking shop recreates the original 1657 chocolate house in Bishopsgate, London, chronicled by Samuel Pepys. In the 17th century, when chocolate was banned in papal lands and cocoa traders fled Europe for England, such houses sprang up in abundance. The first chocolate houses in London traded in cocoa but later served liquid chocolate with sweettasting bread, says Mrs Moore. Courtiers from King Charles II's palace soon made sipping chocolate the height of chic.

Today every morsel within Mrs Moore's wooden beamed, converted cottage - from 39 different chocolate drinks, 89 types of truffles and praline, to a glazed chocolate
"Highwayman" gateaux — is English-made.
She uses an old-fashioned whisking

machine to spin water through 68 per cent cocoa to create a cup of "Countess" Castlemein - iced milk chocolate with ten drops of liquid ginger (£1.20). Voilet-flavoured "Queen's Corsage" is one of her most popular drinks. "Many of our recipes are

authentic to the 17th century so I never use French, Belgian or Swiss chocolate, "she says. Mrs Moore serves 52 types of gateaux and petits gateaux. A slice of "Nell Gwynne" sponge cake, marinated in orange liqueur with fresh cream, topped with a ganache of milk chocolate, costs £1.55.

Besides tiny carques (dises) and larger tablets of chocolate (five-ounce hars, £2.50), Mrs Moore sells 239 individual chocolates, which start at 36p. Her top-range 81b chest of

drawers costs £189. ● The 1657 Chocolate House, 54 Branthwaite Brow, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 9XX (01539 740702). Mon-Sat 9.30am-Spm.



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GARDENING

Try two in a bed for double pleasure

Cross-breeding plants is easy and the results can be colourfully

satisfying, says Stephen Anderton

believe in arranged marriages for plants. Good things can be achieved by putting a beautiful couple in the same bed. If the union is blessed, the offspring will combine the finer attributes of each parent. Of course, serious growers

of roses and fruit will always stay with controlled artificial insemination, applying the pollen of one parent by hand to another to produce the re-quired length of bud, disease resistance or keeping qualities. But there are many plants which will cross-breed with charming results just by being planted side by side in a bed. If they are fast breeders and can produce the next generation in a year or two, it matters less if the breeding is not accurately controlled.

Poppies are easy to cross-breed. Part of my vegetable patch is given over to the annual opium poppy, Papaver somniferum. The plants are mostly doubles, but nevertheless femile, and splendidly promiscuous. From a forest of pale, grey-green succulent stems come masses of heavily double flowers of scarlet, crimson and darkest purple. They cut beautifully for indoors, but last only briefly.

The time to cut poppies is just as the drooping, fat. globular buds show a streak of colour along the side. Get them into a vase last, or they will wilt. If the stems are long, first dip the bottom 2in-3in of the stem into a pan of boiling water for a few seconds.

Poppies will last for a couple of days when in water, the heads gradually pulling up-right, the green halves of the buds splitting open to reveal a confusion of crumpled taffetalike material — rather like a snake swallowing a flamenco dancer whole.

An open flower will last perhaps a day, after which it drops its petals in a flurry of scarlet or purple. Decadence was never so sweet.

A couple of years ago I was given the pale-pink double form, which has joined the others in the opium den. The pinks have crossed with the purples to produce some dusky plum colours in single and double form. They look wonderful; just like a softer version of that invasively fashionable, dusky-plum form of oriental poppy, Papawer orientalis 'Patty's Plum'.

From such a hotbed of colour, progeny is never en-tirely predictable, but it is safe to assume that you will get a degree of continuity. I tag the most promising

flower heads and save the seed for making discrete colonies of colour in the main part of the garden. If the colours are mixed it is easy to pull out the misfits from a single-colour

In the vegetable patch, there is no hope of ever controlling the orgy of miscegenation, but all the spectrum of colours



The annual opium poppy, Papaver somniferum, is splendidly promiscuous, producing masses of heavily double flowers

reappears in each succeeding annual crop. Aquilegias are ideal for mixed marriages. The double pink-and-white 'Nora Barlow' is common and comes true

from seed to a high percent-

age. (If you want the true Nora, beware of buying her

out of flower, because so often she is sold from seed-grown plants which may not come true.) But put Nora with some randy old-fashioned aquilegias and she really lets her hair down. Hybrid progeny seed themselves all around, but still to a large degree with Nora's

double flower. Unlike the large-spurred McKana hybrid aquilegias, the Nora Barlow types are not flamboyant in flower, but they make up in charm and in quantity.

There are few things so much fun for gardeners as seeeing a whole mixed litter of little Barlows — doubles, semidoubles and singles of pink. mauve, white and purple, presided over by their pinkand-white mother, Nora. They look good with the dark purple foliage of Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple' of the purple officinalis Purpurascens.

he 'Pacific Coast' irises are another group of crossbreeders, so promiscuous that botanists despair of the true species surviving in the wild. In gardens they show no more restraint and will hybridise with delightful results. The late Ivor Knowles, of Sevenoaks, Kent, named several varieties, such as 'Lavender Lilt' and 'Blue Ballerina'.

which he had produced by planting promising varieties or Iris innominata and douglasiana side by side, growing on the offspring, and selecting and naming the best. Good gardening has to be ruthlessly elitist. 'Pacific Coast' irises take a few years to

flower from seed and, while **WEEKEND TIPS**

most of the progeny from an arranged marriage may be pleasant. it is necessary to smother at birth those plants which are less than promising, lest the garder. fill up with mediocrities.

Anyone breeding plants especially longer-lived plants - however casually, must be prepared to select mercilessly if any sort of consistency and quality is to be achieved.

A few years ago I picked up some seed from Paeonia delavari, the red-flowered, fruitcake-scented tree paeony. Five ing shrubs to be hybrids. crosses between red P. delay ayi and the yellow P. delavavi var. ludlowii. The numerous flowers are a pleasant muddle of shades between yellow and orange, and perhaps 2in

across. I was pleased with these until I saw a specimen of what must be the same hybrid parentage in a garden in Nottinghamshire, with flowers 3in-lin across, which were more in scale with the dramatic foliage of the plant, and perfumed.

I now realise that mine should go on the bonfire. It is important to be more selective with a permanent, long-term shrub than with easy-come, easy-go poppies. Permanent respect has to be harder earned.

GARDEN ANSWERS



replies to readers' letters

My eucryphia tree is about 12ft high. This winter frost and possibly salt spray, have browned most of the top and middle leaves. The lower leaves under a wall still have some green on them. Should I leave it alone or cut it down to the green part? - Mrs J.M. Currie. Milngavie, Glasgow.

JOHN MITCHE

A Be patient and wait until the tree is growing properly to decide what is alive or dead. You can prune the dead away in May, or even June. It will grow upwards again but not so neatly. You should expect damage to evergreen eucryphias in a bad winter. The deciduous species, E. glutinosa, is hardier, but none of these South American summer-flowering trees is totally hardy.

Q Low-growing coni-fers are starting to spread out over a path alongside my house. How do I prune them and when? - G. Davies, Winchester, Hampshire.

A Little and often is the best recipe. Reduce the spread by thirming back the branches, trying not to leave any stumps or brown. inner foliage showing. You can do this at almost any time of year, and cuts of less than half an inch in diameter will do no harm. Large stumps of branches will not sprout again. The more prostrate junipers are easier to keep in place with regular cutting back than those with low, but arching, growth, such as Juniperus x media 'Pfitzeriana'. Their grace is destroyed by taking off the arching tips.

Two years ago I planted two apple trees which fruited well. but each year squirrels have eaten the entire crop. even biting through plastic netting to get to them. What can I do to stop this? R. Holyoak, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

A Nothing short of a fine metal cage will stop a determined grey squirrel. But not all squirrels are partial to apples; it may be that the next generation will leave them alone. Control on a single garden is almost impossible, but a group of neighbours can make an effort to cull the squirrels by trapping. (Red squirrels are a protected species, and not a problem.) Fruit trees planted close to houses and away from woodland trees

Q I have a lovely display of yellow aconites, under shrubs and in all the borders. But where they reach the edge of the

are less liked by squirrels.

borders, they seed into the gravel paths and look weedy. What can I do to stop this? - Mrs H. Robinson, Ripon, Yorkshire.

. 一种的特别

A Established aconites are best dug out of paths and replanted or given away. If their presence offends you, or is spoiling a formal scheme, use a residual herbicide on the paths; it should soak into the first lin-2in of gravel and kill the seedlings as they emerge. Look for something contain-ing diuron or dichlobenil.

l have a Daphne odora 'Aureomargin-ata' grown from a cutting. It is in a large pot, flowers profusely in spring and has a superb perfume - but looks like a feather duster on a leafless 2ft stem. When the tip was pinched out, it still only branched at the end. Can I cut it back hard, and why does it lose its lower leaves? — Mrs F.D. Neale, Poole, Dorset.

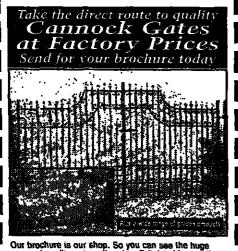
A I have never seen this with foliage; it is always a fairly scrambling, open af-fair. Usually plants are bought having been pinched once as a cutting, and subsequent frost damage or the odd irresistibly picked buttonhole flower causing further pinching contrive to make a loose dome rather than a feather duster. Daphnes hate hard pruning, so you are stuck with the pompon until it devel-



Daphne odora 'Aureomarginata'

would plant it out in sheltered sunny corner. If anyone has this plant as a dense, well-covered bush, and knows why it is so, I would like to hear about it. If density is all, try Daphne retusa or tangutica.

 Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers. Weekend, The Times. I Pennington St. London El 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal respon-sibility. The Times also regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.



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 Start runner bean plants in 3in pots under glass,

for planting out next month. Sow outdoor leeks, peas, broad beans, cauliflowers, brussels sprouts, onions, turnips, beetroot and parsnips.

 Cut down the old stems of hardy fuchsias, and feed. Sow courgettes, cucumbers and outdoor

tomatoes under glass. Complete pruning of evergreens, including any hard pruning of holly and yew hedges.

Lay new lawns, with turf or seed. Repair damaged lawn edges and redefine edges with a half-moon cutter.

 Spray fruit trees as necessary for scab and aphids, avoiding spraying when the flowers are open.

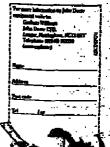
• Sow hardy annuals, such as calendula, nasturtium and cornflowers, where they are intended to flower.

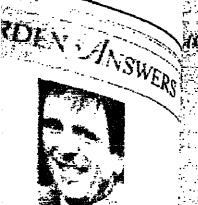


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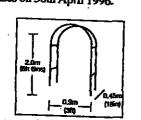
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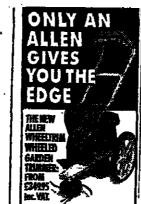
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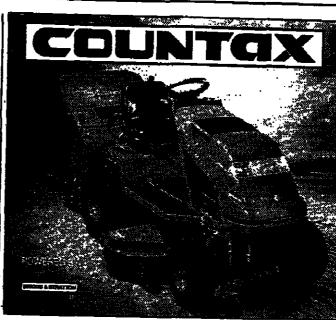
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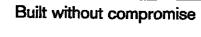
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PROPERTY

A development of the old school

Desks are replaced by sofas as

classrooms are

transformed

There wasn't much to see when Crena Watson, a fashion photographer, walked through the door of her new flat: no walls, kitchen, bathroom or central heating, just 4,000 sq ft of space in south London.

Inside, apart from the size and shape of the windows, there was little to suggest that she now owned the former gymnasium and two classrooms of Lavender Hill School in Wandsworth. She bought the first finor flat a year ago and spent three months converting it into a 23ft by 17ft living room, a huge bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and a studio with a mezzanine floor for an office and darkroom. At one time there were 16 builders there.

Redundant schools can make homes of character. Rob Dark, an architect and conservationist, says: 'Old schools are usually well built. The brickwork, joinery and decorative features are of a high standard and you can create an attractive environment and get more space for your money than in many modern houses."

Mr Dark also points out that schools are generally well located within the local community, close to shops and stations.

Lavender Hill was one of 500 schools built in the capital by the London School Board between 1870 and 1904. About 300 survive. Local school boards, which were found all over the country, were elected by ratepayers to provide elementary education for the poor.

English Heritage, mindful that architectural history could be lost by closure and demolition, is researching the history of board





them open but it can ensure that any

future conversion is done sympatheti-

not listed - ended its days in the hands of the Inner London Education

Authority as offices and a centre for

adult education. Wandsworth coun-

cil, which took it over in 1990, sold the

1.3 acre site two years ago to the developers Sapcote for El.306,000.

Sapcote turned the school, renamed

Crena Watson in the living room of the flat she created from a shell. The windows are the only clue to the building's former life as a school schools with a view to adding to the book on school developments. Beacons of Learning, published last year by SAVE Britain's Heritage, 43 listed nationwide. "Most are still in educational use. Listing can't keep describes The Village as a "shining example of enlightened entrepreneurcally," says Elain Harwood, an English Heritage historian. Lavender Hill School — which is ial conservation". "What people are buying is a

shell," says Ashley Nicholson, a director of Sapcote. "It's up to the occupier to do what they like with the place. Every one is different." He estimates that conversion costs would be between £20,000 and £50,000.

Rob and Barbara Hunter fell in love with a shell of a building too. only theirs was a village school in Cumbria built in 1874. The school. with one high ceilinged room for juniors and one

> The couple put in a successful sealed bid to Cumbria County Council. The planning authorities in the Lake District National Park stipulated that the outside

for infants, was

closed in 1988

because of fall-

ing numbers.

had to stay as near as possible to the original." Mr Hunter says. Inside, the school has been trans-

formed, although with deference to its character and age. Eighteen months of work produced five bedrooms, a kitchen, a sitting room on a mezzanine floor and a dining room. "We wanted to keep the feeling of space. There's no point in buying a building like this and splitting it into small boxes," says Mrs Hunter, who did not want to disclose the cost.

The couple's advice to anyone considering such a conversion is to choose an architect who is sensitive to the building. Emma Phillips at SAVE agrees: "If the building is converted, then carrying out a good scheme which retains the overall feeling is of prime importance. You should work with an architect who's had experience of historic buildings." She estimates conversion costs of village schools to be 550,000 upwards.

Over the past 12 years 350 small rural schools have closed in England. Other educational or community uses can often be found for them so by no means all end up as homes.

The organisation ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is in the middle of piloting a scheme in five counties (Buckinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Essex and Cheshirel to encourage greater community use of small schools.

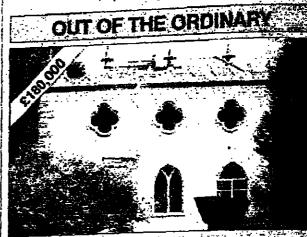
A number of converted schools are at present on the market. The Old School House at Rushford, near Thetford in Norfolk is for sale at £195,000 (Savills. 01473 226191) and there is the Old National School at Sampford Spiney, Yelverton, Devon (Strutt Parker, 01392 215631), Offers over £150,000.

Meanwhile Sapcote has just started the conversion of Latchmere Primary School in Wandsworth, for which the company paid 52.25 mil-lion. The buildings will be converted into 23 shell flats and eight houses, and 16 new, fully-fitted houses will be built in the grounds. Prices will range from £100,000 to £400,000.

CHRISTIAN DYMOND

 Beacons of Learning is available
 from SAVE Britain's Herisage, 68 Batter sea High Street, London SW II 3HX. £11.50 £0171-228 3356; • ACRE, Somerford Court. Somerford Roca, Cirenoster, Gloucester snire GL7 ITW (OL285 653477).

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will, starse. Forest Hill Lodge, Mariborough. A building plot of 1,43 acras with a Grade II listed 19th-century lodge house arranged as a population cottage. There is planning consent for a separate, five bedroom house. About: £180,000 (Hamptons, 01672 518256).

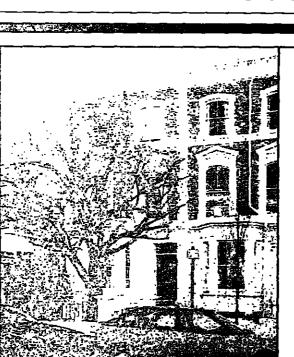


Belle Tout Lighthouse, Birling Gap Road, Beachy Hearl, near Eastbourne. Former lighthouse, with speciacular views over the Sussex coastine, featured in the BBC series Life and Lower of a She Davil. Four bedrooms, circular bathroom, 36th reception most, letter, two tower rooms, observation room. Two garages. Terraced gardens. About £285,000 (Fox & Sons, 01323-410911).





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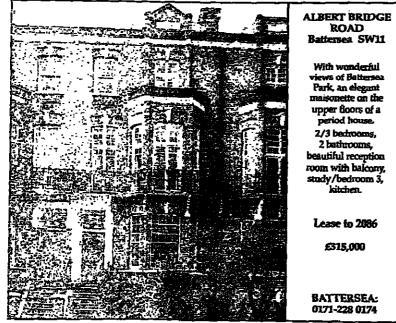
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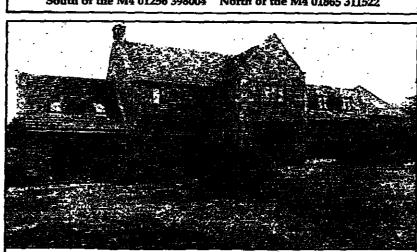
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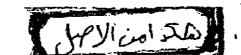
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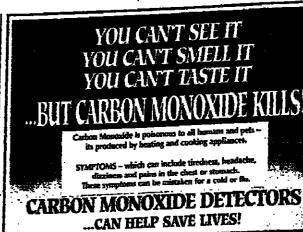
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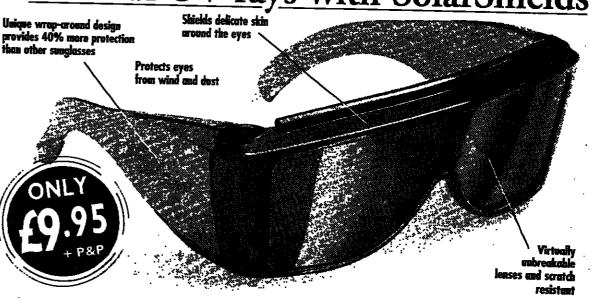
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SHOPPING

Confused by the range of cameras on sale? Tim Wapshott snaps off a few rolls of film so he can point buyers in the right direction

To put you in the picture

oday we have the technology, in theory at least, to make sophisticated, easy-touse cameras to suit every ability and pocket, starting with disposable cameras for less than a tenner. They are all worthy descendants of probably the first camera for amateurs, the Box Brownie - cost \$1 - which was unveiled 100

years ago by Eastman Kodak Between now and the sum-mer holidays camera shops do some of their best business. and buyers need to decide which model will suit their pockets and which size will comfortably fit into it.

James Gardner, buyer for Selfridges' camera department, which last year sold more than 6,000 cameras made by 21 manufacturers, says: "Camera size should be a consideration. If it is too bulky, you're unlikely to take it out With you.

"Then decide what pictures you want to take. If it's 'happy snaps', a basic set-focus, autowind 35mm compact from £30 will do. Spending a little more will get you a more solid 35mm compact, probably in-

cluding a built-in zoom lens." However, compact cameras with 200m lenses have drawbacks; although they are good for head-and-shoulders shots, the pictures rarely enlarge without loss of quality.

If you might want quality enlargements, consider stepping up a league to the 35mm SLR (single lens reflex) camera, costing from £350 for an auto-focus version.

Auto-focus uses a beam to measure the distance between the camera lens and the spot on which you are focusing, so your picture will be sharp. An SLR also gives you many new 10 swap lenses from wideangle to telephoto and it will probably have manual override facilities.

I tested a selection of cameras using the same type of film in each, and the same developing process at The Times, based on Mr Gardner's bestselling models, to see whether price still makes a difference. My supermodels, hotographed on a cloudy afternoon outside Hertford House, in central London, home of the Wallace Collection, were Young's the brewers' dray horses, Wandle Mascot and Wandle Buster. The cameras had to be easy to use, with fixed or auto-focus, and widely available. I also tested cameras suitable for

children aged under ten. The Kodak Fun Gold disposable camera (£8.99 with flash): easy to use but the pictures, though in focus, were

The Kodak Star AutoFocus compact (£39.99): easy to use, but the print quality varied some too dark, some faded at the edge but all in focus.

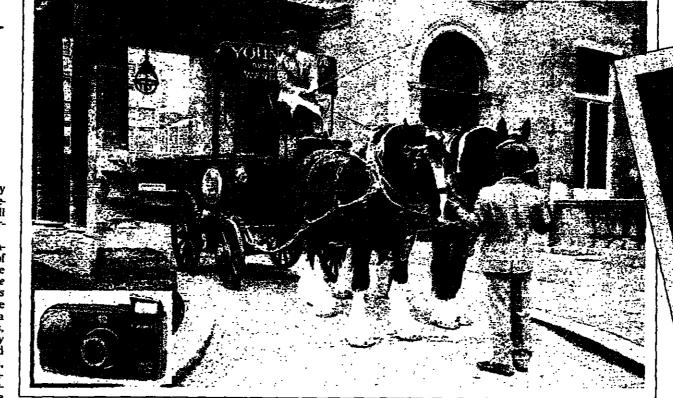
The Yashica T4 (£139.99); a compact with built-in flash. The pictures were too dark but perfectly focused.

esults from the Cagon Sureshot 70 Zoom compact (£159), with zoom capabilities and built-in flash. were slightly over-exposed but

with excellent clarity.

The Olympus MJU Zoom
105 QD (£269.99) compact,
with the biggest zoom lens,
was a sleek, silver dream
machine, Excellent results. The Minolta 500 SI SLR

(£349.99) was the bulky next step up from compacts. It



Wandle Mascot and Wandle Buster stroll into Canon Sureshot 70 Zoom focus (camera inset). Right, a picture of Oliver taken by William with the Polaroid talking camera

handled solidly, but several pictures were under-exposed. At £999.99 for the body alone, the Nikon F90X was the prince of cameras that I tested. It was simple to use, with an expensive sounding shutter action, and delivered

Photographic fact file

Yashica, 01734 311919; Canon, 0800 616417; Olympus, 0171-

□ Details of local stockists from: Kodak, 01442 61122:

253 2772: Minolta. 01908 200400; Nikon, 0181-541 4440;

Polaroid, 01582 632000; Casio, 01SI-450 9131.

For younger photographers, Mr Gardner suggested Kodak Fun Gold, Kodak Star or Yashica T4. My panel — William, seven, and Oliver, five — tested his recommendations, plus two Polaroid cameras - the lower quality of the prints being offset by instant results.

excellent results.

Of the two Kodaks, neither delivered memorable pictures. The boys found the Yashica easy to use and got good re-sults. Their favourites were

undoubtedly the Polaroids. Oliver liked the chunky Polar-oid 636 Talking Camera (£39.99), which plays your own taped messages, such as "Smile" as the pictures are taken, while William preferred the executive lines of the Polaroid Image Elite

£119.99). But technology never stands still. Appearing in shops soon is a photographic system that Minolta, Nikon, Canon, Kodak and Fuji have developed jointly at a cost of £200 million: the Advanced Photo System (APS). These cameras will use a new type of film in tamper-proof cartridges, fractionally smaller than standard 35mm rolls, and automatic correctional information is stored on a magnetic strip in

the film to enable better darkroom salvaging if things go

It is too early to know whether the APS gamble will pay off. The cameras (from £60), films, developing and printing will all cost more, but the biggest initial drawback might be the difficulty in finding film stock in far-flung destinations. Mr Gardner comments: "APS is the way photography is going, but it will not do so overnight. The trade believes that APS and 35mm will sell side by side into the next century."
Instant pictures in another

form are likely to change the face of consumer photography. Digital cameras will be a growth market and they do away with film altogether. Pictures are saved electroni-

cally and can be transferred to computer disk. You cannot get regular prints but colour pictures can be printed onto paper or incorporated into other computer documents. Digital cameras give results

instantly, enabling you to

select the best, deleting others.

Send for a Kodak photography guide. Main paper, page 19

as good as prints, even without

flash in low light, and stores

and imminent newcomers -

including Canon, Nikon and

Polaroid - might keep the

pressure up to keep prices

down. Mr Gardner says: "The

QV-10 originally cost £799; now it is £699 and unofficially

Nor is the novelty of the digi-

tal likely to wear off. The

flexibility of seeing imme-

diately the picture you have

taken on the camera's mini

screen and being able to take it

again if it isn't quite what you

want is the ultimate luxury.

you can get one for £599."

ntil now, price has

been a big draw-

back, but that is

dropping quickly

% pictures at a time.

The most popular digital THE CAMERA I COVET camera in the consumer market is the tiny Casio QV-10. THERE IS a photograph With its large, back-lit colour book I have that shows a Viet-LCD display, it gives surprisnamese woman clutching the reingly good results not yet quite

mains of her husband, which are in a plastic bag bound with string. She is protecting herself and the torpse from the sun with her straw hat. She has forgotten herself in her grief and a strand of saliva forms a link between her and her dead husband. The photograph was taken by Larry Burrows in 1968 during the Tet Offensive. Three years later,

he was killed covering the Vietnam War for Life magazine. His Leica - the very camera that took that picture — is the one I cover.

Designed by Oskar Barnack and using perforated cine film, the Leica I" was introduced in 1925 by Ernst Leitz, the optical manuicturer of Wetzlar. Germany. its success revolutionised photography, establishing 35mm as the format used to this day. This camera is well engineered, light-

professional photographer, but has few of the modern automatic features beloved of the amaleur. The current model, the Vio. retains much of the original design and feel.

weight and simple to use for a

Alfred Eisenstadt used a Leica

ing the nurse in Time Square on VJ Day in August 1945 which ran on the cover of Life. Henri Cartier-Bresson, who helped to establish photo-journalism as an art form, bought his first Leica. his "notebook", in 1933.

For me, the most interesting photographer now using Leicas is Ellen von Unwerth, whose uncompromising, erotic photo-graphs of the fashion world are on show in London.

The world record price for a camera is for a Leica — £39.600. paid at Christie's in 1993 for a gold model custom-made for the Sultan Abdel Aziz of Morocco. New Leicas cost about £2,600.

If this price is out of reach. perhaps the best camera to own would be the one that tales the next picture of Lord Lucan. I would love it to be a Leica M6 and in my hands at the time.

Graham Wood

The author is picture editor of The Times Magazine. Ellen von Unwerth

exhibition. Hamilton Gallen. 13

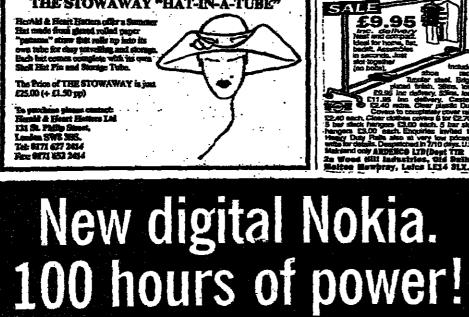
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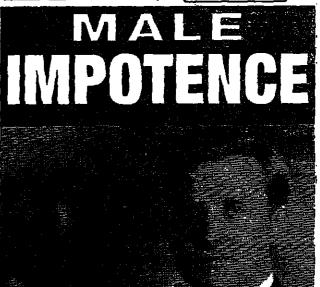
histories of people who suffered panic and general anxiety

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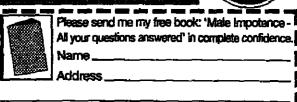


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ALONG with tarts' knicker blinds, designer water and the personal computer, the Aga-saga arrived in the late 1980s. With its distinctive pastel jacket and rejection of glitz, it ousted the sex 'n' shopping novel, and readers flocked to read them. The swing of fashion? Yes, in part. But there is, perhaps, more cooking in the Aga-saga than a 1990s espousal of domestic values insofar as it fictionalises profound insecurities and crises of confidence. For this is a world where adultery is commonplace and a sustaining morality is in shreds. In short, the message from the shires is one of middle-

So it is understandable that the

Elizabeth Buchan discovers that the Aga-saga for the 1990s is sending out an SOS

from the shires, where middle-class marriages and morality melt down in middle age

virtually indistinguishable. Two of them plunge the reader into the queasy eruptions of middle-aged marriages that have been jogging along for too long. The third transplants an infant marriage from the city to the village, which, with its cast of old ladies, busy-bodies and faded squirearchy, is almost a parody but is redeemed by sharp and perspicacious writing.

A Summer Affair opens with Nicholas scraping dandruff off his scalp, an example of Swiftian detail

that the author often slips in. He is

A SUMMER AFFAIR By Amanda Brookfield Sceptre, £16.99 ■ SEVEN FOR A SECRET By Judy Astley Black Swan, £5.99

■ THE TORTOISE SHELL By Fanny Frewen Century, E15.99 fortysomething, and his ambitions

to write are going nowhere, while his energetic wife, Kate, is embarking on a career as a cookery writer, his children are growing up and Nicholas is falling prey to jealousy and suspicion. Before long, he is behaving very badly. Amanda Brookfield's tussle with the complexities of a marriage has moments of insight and black humour but it is marred by hurried and cluttered

The heroine of Seven for a Secret is not a cook but a gifted gardener. but the same situation is apparent. Married for 25 years to the mostly absent Tom, an airline pilot, Heather is horrified to discover that her first husband, a rakish Scottish laird with whom she eloped out of school, has arrived in the village to film his bestselling novel. Money is not a problem, but having enough does not let you off sharp, some-times cruel lessons and unwelcome reminders of the past. Judy Astley pilots her plot along at a goodish pace, but the deeper feelings capable of transforming a romp into some-thing more significant only emerge in the last pages.

Slighter and quirkier, The Tortoise Shell has the texture and flavour of the lovingly distilled, whose prose has been allowed onto the page only after a proper

A genius at advertising copy, Henny Brack has married handsome, successful, nice Jack, who immediately sets about taming his wife by corralling her at Mulberry Cottage in his home village of Tiddingfold. Surprisingly. Henny gives in, abandons her smart metropolitan existence and finds herself transplanted into a community of women who operate by their own rules. Will Henry survive the role of stay-at-home wife? Ninety-five-year-old Mrs Boxendale has her own thoughts on the matter. Sharp as a knife and yet deeply compassionate, Fanny Frewen is an original spirit.

SHORT STORE

Moody and the blues

BRIGHTEST ANGELS AROUND HEAVEN By Rick Moody

Abacus, £9.99 RICK MOODY'S short takes are mood pieces. He paints word pictures of the everyday American nightmare some where between Hopper and Rauschenberg. These shards of inconsequential living are nicely constructed elegantly and wittily written. Lots of brand names and name drop-ping. In the long title story, the underbelly of a seedy New York is investigated through a hypnotic description of surfaces. A clever chap, Moody, worth keeping an eye on.

THE CUB-HUNTING SEASON By Steve Ferris

Vintage, E8.99 THIS first collection is a bit like a surfeit of ballet, an art form that brings me out in spots. Characters, mainly homosexual, metamorphose into zoo animals, or butterflies, or anything to escape difficult humanity. The selfishness of the characters, to a man, is awesome. The writing is accomplished enough - the menace of Genet tagged to the surreal baroque of Angela Carter — but lacks either's originality of vision.

■ LEAVE TO STAY Edited by Joan Riley and Briar Wood

Virago, £7.99 BRIAR WOOD is a white New Zealander, Joan Riley a black Jamaican, and the collect stories and poems by migrants in Britain and America. Here are the fears and excitements of arriving in new places as well as the day-today problems of living in foreign parts. The writing is as varied as are the nationalities of the contributors. What is not particularly remarked upon is the extent to which "foreigners" enhance the quality of life in their new homes.

■ SCOTTISH GHOST STORIES

By James Robertson Warner, £4.99

MANY of these retellings are derived from Hugh Miller's essential 1835 compilation. James Robertson's versions have all been "researched". He has visited the sites of his hauntings as if this kind of documentation makes the spooky nudgings of the imagination somehow more credi-ble. Familiar stories, such as those of the 17th-century wizard, Major Weir, and the Monster of Glamis, are in-

cluded as well as little known

hauntings up to the present. GILES GORDON

Neither Romanov, nor an empress

ALMOST 78 years after a squad of half-drunken local Bolsheviks burst into the basement of the Ipatiev House in Ekaterinburg and opened fire indiscriminately on Tsar Nicholas II, his family and servants, scientists at the Home Office Forensic Laboratory this month finally re-solved one of the most emotionally charged and politically contentious cases of regicide. Genetic tests have proved beyond doubt that the bones first dug up in secrecy in a muddy wood in 1979 are indeed those of the slain

The long mystery was solved by DNA matching. If the technique had been available 50 years ago, it would have unmasked one of history's most famous imposters. cut short one of the longest and costliest civil suits German courts have ever heard and avoided years of feuding between more than 40 surviving members of the quarrelsome Romanov family. For



Anastasia: murder victim

Anna Anderson, the mysterious woman pulled from a Berlin canal who intrigued and infuriated the world with her claim that she was Anastasia. the Tsar's only surviving daughter, was a fraud.

Paranoid, chronically ill. obstinate and by turns reclusive or self-seeking, she lived a bizarre half-life in courts, sanitoriums, mental asylums and the dilapidated castles of deracinated German and Russian aristocrats, only to die in squalor in America. She survived tuberculosis, the intrusions of prying journalists and the ferocious opposition of the Tsar's nearest relatives as well as the enmity of Lord Mountbatten, who spent huge sums

opposing Anderson's claims.

The double mystery is intriguingly unravelled by John Klier. A detective, he has pieced together the latest evidence and writes a compelling, fast-moving account. The grippingly related; but the list all the Romanovs who befriended Anastasia gets as tedious as the woman herself evidently was. The book is as satsifying as the historic conclusion: the frauds are unmasked, the murdered. Tsar

MICHAEL BINYON



Last generation? Statistics on the tiger population are unreliable and the battle to save them may already be lost

BOOK NEWS: Hats off to Larry; diplomatic impunity

DEREK GRANGER, at work on an authorised biography of Laurence Olivier, invites any Times readers with letters from the actor or recollections of his life and career to write to him at 82 Palace Gardens Ferrace, London W8 4RS (fax 0171-229 3060). "All original correspondence and documents will be treated with the greatest care and returned as soon as possible after being copied," he says.

● DOUBTLESS anticipating increased leisure time and a life in the Lords, former Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd has signed a two-book deal with Little, Brown. The first is an as-yet-untitled political thriller and the second a

Olivier papers sought

television tie-in. Diplomacy in the 20th Century, which spans the years from 1914 to the Gulf War. Will Hurd take a critical view of the quality of today's diplomacy? "It will be very Douglas Hurd - very diplomatic," says his publisher.

 NICHOLAS EVANS'S The Horse Whisperer has been shortlisted for the Romantic Novel of the Year Award to be announced at London's Café

Royal on April 24, with P. D. James as the guest of honour. Also on the shortlist are The Red Pavilion by Jean Chap-man, To Lie with Lions (Dorothy Dunnett). Unforgettable (William Gill), Misselthwaite Home (Rosamund Pilcher) and Casting Off (Libby

 ACTRESS Julie Walters is at work on a novel, also bought by Little, Brown_ Unsurprisingly, the star of Educating Rita and Buster draws her inspiration from the thespian world: "It is about two actresses and will be slightly autobiographical, with laughter and tears, but rather more laughter," we are promised.

OBSESSION comes in many guises: sex, power, drugs, gambling. For Richard Ives, an adventurer and wildlife tour-leader, it is none of these. His passion is the tiger. Possessed by the extraordi-

nary charisma of the world's most formidable carnivore, he vows to confront the tiger face to face. So begins his Asian from Chitwan in Nepal to the tiger's last strongholds in the heart of Mother India. Here. swaying through the jungle on elephant-back, he hears its deep intestinal groan in the mists of Dudhwa. But he has

come too late. At Ranthambor national park in Rajasthan, a huge male tiger known as Genghis used to prowl the Rajput ruins and catch deer by chasing them into the park's lotusstudded lakes. Now, along

TIMES BOOKS

Malcolm Bradbury

Tiger, tiger, burning dim

OF TIGERS AND MEN

with countless others, Genghis has gone, his bones ground up to make tiger wine. Along the way Ives encoun-

ters other tiger fanatics. Men such as "Billy" Arjan Singh, who became hooked on tigers as a child after reading Jim Corbett's classic Maneaters of Kumaon. Singh has spent most of his life hand-raising and releasing tigers and leopards into the wild at Tiger Haven, his home on the edge

he feels disillusioned and betrayed by the way in which Operation Tiger, the interna-

India's great cats from extinc-

tion, has been allowed to run into the sands. Official reports reckon there are still between 3,000 and 4,000 tigers in India. The tiger men believe these figures are wildly optimistic. The true figure may be fewer than 700. In Indonesia, where truth is an unknown continent, the

government has simply lied

£15.99

£9.99

£14.50

£16.99

£6.99

E1.99

£5.99

£6.99 £3.99

29

about its tigers. There are supposed to be at least 400, but no more than a few dozen The same is true of Thai-

land, where the tigers of Khao Yai, one of the country's wildlife showplaces, have been poached by people working inside the park, who sell the carcasses to a Bangkok restaurant specialising in exotic meats.

Ives writes with messianic tional rescue attempt to save fervour, but his book is bitter medicine, with no saccharine message of hope to coat the pill. He has journeyed into the future, only to discover that the tiger is leaving us. One day soon, he predicts, the last wild tiger will be born. For a few years more its roar will echo in the night. Then the forests will fall silent for ever.

Brian Jackman

SPEND £2,600 ON SHOPPING AT YOUR FAVOURITE SUPERMARKET



Win £50 a week in shopping vouchers

The Times is going to take at least part of the pain out of shopping, by offering you the chance to win a £50 food voucher every week for a year. Keen pricing is the hallmark of supermarkets. Even so, when you get to the checkout the total often comes as a shock. So a prize of £2.600 over the year is an unbeatable

bargain. You can choose to exchange your vouchers to help towards your food bill at any one of the

following supermarkets: Asda, Budgen, Co-op. Iceland, Marks & Spencer, Morrison, Safeway, Sainsbury's, Somerfield, Tesco and Waitrose.

For your chance to win, all you have to do is answer the following question and ring our competition hotline, below.

Who is The Times wine writer? a) Jilly Goolden b) Jancis Robinson

c) Jane MacQuirty Lines are open until midnight on Monday, April 15, 1996. The first correct entry chosen at random will win the £2,600 worth of shopping vouchers. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

CALL OUR HOTLINE ON 0891 818 104

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All roads lead to CD-Rom

THURSDAY

on John Updike's magisterial new novel, *In The Beauty* of the Lilies; Michael Sissons on Sebastian Faulks's The Fatal Englishman: Mark Ridley on Richard Dawkins's Climbing

Mount Improbable

DORLING KINDERSLEY has been making a name for itself - and some tidy profits - in the expanding CD-Rom market. Now, with neat symmetry, it has reverted to print to explain how the world of multimedia works.

Beautifully and comprehensively illustrated. Multimedia covers the past, present and future of the whole field, from monitors to modems, from 3D games to the World Wide Web. The explanatory text is clear, concise, intelligent and, most The Complete Guide Dorling Kindersley, £19.99

importantly, does not talk down to us adults as we struggle to catch up with the technology the young take for granted. And even if some of it goes over your head, you should pick up enough of the jargon to enable you to talk the same language as your children, or at the very least to be able to call the bluff of the

"expert" salesmen at your local computer superstore.

There is a splendid section on the future of computer technology - electronic newspapers, automated homes and so on - that will seem impossibly quaint in a few years' time. If you think that all of this technology will eventually drive you mad. don't worry. In the future, when you talk to the walls, the walls will talk back.

PETER INGHAM

The Times/Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

KEN HOM'S HOT WOK BOOK Ken Hom (BBC) UNRULY QUEEN Flora Fraser (Macmillan)
THE DEBT TO PLEASURE John Lanchester (Picador) FIRST KING OF SHANNARA Terry Brooks (Legend)
PRIMARY COLORS Anonymous (Chatto & Windus)
THE RETURN William Shatner (PocketBooks) MICHELIN FRANCE (Michelin) HITLER'S WILLING EXECUTIONERS D. J. Goldbagen (Little, Brown)
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE Daniel Goleman (Bloomsbury)
THE JESUS PAPYRUS C. P. Thiede & M. d'Ancona (Weidenfeld)

PAPERBACK

SOPHIE'S WORLD Jostein Gaarder (Phoenix)
TRAINSPOTTING Irvine Welsh (Minerva)
GREEN MILE: TWO DEAD GIRLS Stephen King (Penguin)
BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM Kate Atkinson (Black Swan) OUR GAME John le Carré (Coronet)
ORIGINAL SIN P. D. James (Penguin)
HEMINGWAY'S CHAIR Michael Palin (Mandarin)
ACID HOUSE Irvine Welsh (Vintage)

THE RAINMAKER John Grisham (Arrow)
SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS David Guterson (Bloomsbury)
THE BLACK ALBUM Hanif Kureshi (Faber & Faber)
MARABOU STORK NIGHTMARES Irvine Welsh (Vintage) MOO Jane Smiley (Flamingo)
HEART SONGS E. Annie Pronix (Fourth Estate) THE STATE WE'RE IN Will Hutton (Vintage) A RUTHLESS NEED Catherine Cookson (Corgi) A CELESTINE PROPHECY James Redfield (Bantam)

FINGERPRINTS OF THE GODS Graham Hancock (Mandarin) 19 REGENERATION Pat Barker (Penguin) 20 SENSE AND SENSIBILITY Jane Austen (Bloomsbury)

TEENAGE FICTION -Friendly bombs

for older children. Apart from keeping up with the trends. they have only a few years to capture an audience. After that, readers move on, "Sadly outgrown," as they used to say in the Horse & Hound pony advertisements.

Terry Pratchett, who "writes for anyone old enough to understand, is the witty exception. Johnny and the Bomb (Doubleday, £12.99) is his third novel about Johnny Maxwell, the 12-year-old (going on 17) whose strange adventures keep teenagers on the tips of their toes. Here, in company with three mates. plus Kirsty (a sharp-tongued version of the token female). he goes back in time to the Second World War. It is May 1941 and a bomb is about to fall on rural Blackbury, enabling Johnny to remark. "I can remember when it was all buildings". Despite the surface simplicity of Pratchett's

language, readers of 12 plus are in for a demanding read. Give Robert Westall's Falling into Glory (Mammoth, £4.99) to a 14 or 15-year- old and do not expect to see it

again until her (or his) entire class has read it - and reread it, with the tears streaming down their cheeks. First published in 1993, it is the story of how Robbie, the school's bright boy and rugby hero. falls in love with his teacher. the enthralling Miss Harris. By 16 or 17, I am told, you may have got all you can out of it. This hothouse of a book set in a period of postwar innocence can be relied on to have a knock-out effect on teenage

emotions for generations. Feelings of guilt and anger which can follow a death are explored in The Shadow of August by Sue Welford (OUP, £5,99), but mostly it is a gripping mystery. After her mother's death, 17-year-old Mattie discovers that a lot of things she had been told about her childhood were false. Unravelling her past is painful, but inheriting a house in Cornwall can only be romantic. An imagination stretcher for 14 to 16-year-olds, the novel stops when Mattie has unearthed all the secrets, and we long to know her reactions.

MAUREEN OWEN



Ishiguro: echoes of Chaucer and of Lewis Carroll

THE UNCONSOLED By Kazuo Ishiguro

THIS respectable hotel, this city somewhere in Europe: it all seems familiar yet deeply strange. Mr Ryder, celebrity pianist and narrator, checks in authoritatively enough but soon proves absurdly hazy about why he is here.

The staff, attentive yet disturbingly demanding, allude to meetings, tight schedules. Whenever Ryder falls asleep, the telephone rings. Actually this is a city of dreams, perhaps of death. Vaguely remembered people pop up and then suddenly are gone in a realm of anxieties and exhaustion, albeit not without hope.

This extraordinary novel from the author of The Remains of the Day has echoes of Chaucer's dream poems, Lewis Carroll

■ MEMORIES OF SNOW

THIS is a compelling and

subtle novel about the tragic

a small New England farm-

home to his girlfriend and

By Alison Dye

Fellini. It is a Divine Comedy for our times: epic, episodic, satirical, spiritual, poignant though elusive. The story of a pressurised artist, considered a contemporary music guru, becomes a nightmare of flailing civic guidance and a vision of the state we are in as modernity's lost souls.

Ryder's journey, ending on page 535 aboard a circling tram, is not strong on forward-drive. However, Ishiguro's stream of glimpsed encounters is curiously absorbing. Behavioural observations are sharp, particularly of the small boy Ryder takes round with him but often forgets, peskily hyperactive or worryingly stilled. Some might find the tone cold. Yet Ishiguro's quiet eloquence creates the estrangement that partners distress in our dreams.

then murder with the discovery of the bizarrely asphyxiated body of an editor at Peverell Press, a venerable yet ailing London publishing house. Inspector Kate Miskin, together with an unusually remote Commander Dalgliesh - in his eighth murder case for James - are called in to the brooding Innocent House to investigate. From the legacies of history spring a chilling hidden agenda and resolution, it seems, can only be found in bloodshed. An absorbing tale of bitterness and retribution that leaves the reader wondering until the final page.

THE WRONG GIRL

By Nick McDowell changes that are wrought in Sceptre, £5.99 ing community when its LAURA BLADE is a seriousyoung men go to fight in the ly screwed up heroine who World War. balances on a knife edge Raymond Smith returns between reality and fantasy. half truths and lies. The their baby to find that his story, told by Laura, her taxifamiliar world has been driver lover and a shrink, irrevocably altered by death reveals glimpses of a history of parental abuse, bulimia and absence, setting the scene for a tragic conclusion. and feelings of lovelessness and revenge. Laura herself Alison Dye is strikingly asemerges as the "storyteller tute on the psychological effects of loss and her vividsupreme", whose distorted ly-drawn characters struggle imaginings come to govern for self-expression with rethe plot and dangerously blur the reader's ability to distinguish between truth and lies. This compelling but destructive character unsettles the reader and those

around her, as her powerful

tales act upon the mind...

By P. D. James Penguin, £5.99 SINISTER practical jokes are followed by suicide and ■ THE MORAL ANIMAL

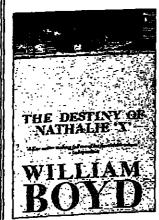
Why We Are The Way We Are

sourcefulness and humour.

ORIGINAL SIN

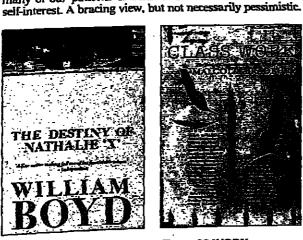
CD-Rom

By Robert Wright WHY IS IT that rich American parents tend to lavish most attention on their sons while poorer parents concentrate on their daughters? It's all to do with giving the family genes the best chance of survival, according to the evolutionary psychologists. In this densely written but highly readable book Robert Wright explains the infant science, showing that many of our patterns of behaviour are built on instinctive



■ THE DESTINY OF NATHALIE "X" By William Boyd Penguin, £5.99 PRIZE-WINNING African

film maker Aurèlien No has a taste of Hollywood and decides it's not for him. Suicidal Wittgenstein realises that there are people worse off than he and finds the courage to carry on. Edward covets his girlfriend's twin sister and seizes a moment's opportunity to dispose of his rival. Most of these stories concern physical travel. An unvicious satirist, Boyd catches his characters in the midst of their mental journeys, and with a few well-placed adjectives manages to show them as they are, their shifting perceptions of the world and



■ CLASS WORK Edited by Malcolm

Sceptre, £6.99 THE FIRST and sole student to attend Malcohn Bradbury and Angus Wilson's MA course in creative writing at the University of East Anglia in 1970 was lan McEwan. In his introduction to this 25thanniversary collection of stories by graduates. McEwan heaps praise on his teachers. These diverse stories are linked only by a certain bleakness; especially fine are Kazuo Ishiguro's disturbing tale of a reunion, A Family Supper, Jacqui Lofthouse's gruesomely comic monologue, The Effigy and The Great Leonardo, Erica Wagner's compassionate story about a priest turned lion-

their place in it. Kate Bassett, Lucy Lethbridge, Perry Cleveland-Peck, Amanda Loose, Hazel Leslie, Fiona Hook, Nicki Household

How Denis fits the Bill

THE HOLD Denis Thatcher Denis Thatcher is a genial buffer but he is no buffoon, has on the public imagination is the result, more than anyaccording to his daughter, Michael Gove finds thing, of the genius of John Wells and Richard Ingrams, whose "Dear Bill" letters in

lived in the shade of a dominating mother and demand-ing brother, imbues her account of Denis's position Private Eye took the intrinsic comedy of a male chauvinist hen-pecked by a harridan and turned it into brilliant satire. with a special sympathy. Al-The image Wells and Inthough Denis is painted as an grams invented of a ginenemy of emotion, who rarely drinking, golf-playing, comspoke to his children unless to fortably conservative saloonbark a command and who bar buffer was so convincing was abroad when his wife was that it is easy to forget that the selected for Finchley, there is living inspiration for their something touching about his silent support, doing the

washing-up while advisers worked on speeches with the figure in his own right. Below the Parapet seeks to rescue the real Denis from the imagined. Carol Thatcher's own life,

BELOW THE PARAPET By Carol Thatcher HarperCollins, £16.99

practical, undemonstrative kind, common to his age and class but unfashionable now. That makes all the more attractive those moments where feeling breaks through, such as Denis's gift to his wife after the Brighton bombing of a watch inscribed "Every moment is precious". The Private Eye caricature of consort as eunuch is firmly demolished. But if Carol Thatcher is a

revisionist in her treatment of Denis's private life, her insights into his political views only serve to reinforce the image already established. There are scores of hilarious anecdotes, all crisply related, but one in particular reveals the unreconstructed Denis of the "Dear Bill" letters. At a Downing Street reception for the cast of Anyone for Denis?, a farce based on the Private Eye parodies, Denis mistook an actor for a plain-clothes policeman and congratulated him on his colleagues' handling of the Brixton riots: "You get fuzzie-wuzzies on the rampage . . . you people sort it out in no time at all. Carol Thatcher admits it

was "vintage Denis" but excuses the casual racism by eliding it with Denis's opposition to the "crooked and despotic leaders" of post-colonial Africa. It won't wash. Denis is a glorious golf-club reactionary, not a critic of human rights abuses in Uganda. The appeal of the man and the caricature is the honesty with which he says what so many of his generation think.

Carol Thatcher has done more than capture her father: she has, by faithfully render-ing him, caught the cadences



Thatcher: enemy of emotion

of a type of Englishman, comfortable in his prejudices. loyal to simple virtues, who will soon, like Whig grandees and London dockers, be a thing of the past. In retrieving their standard bearer from fiction and making him flesh and blood Carol Thatcher has done that generation, and posterity, a service.

Duty-

free

limits

THE ACHILLES HEEL

THE glamorisation of HM

Customs & Excise, once re-

garded as the ultimate anorak

of government departments,

continues. Now that MI5 and

MI6 seem to have relin-

quished all pretence at any form of secrecy, only the C & E. Reg Gadney persuaded

us in his last novel, retains any

shred of the good old-fash-

ioned principles of undercover

intelligence, complete with

codenames, secret meetings

In The Achilles Heel. Cus-

oms & Excise investigator

Alan Rosslyn, hero of the excellent Just When We Are

Safest, pursues an interna-

tional pornography network

of the most perverted kind,

dealing in the sexual exploita-

tion of children as young as

six. Rosslyn and his exotic

sidekick, Celeste Quinceau,

are on the verge of a break-

through; but their American

colleague is horrifically butch-

ered in the Amsterdam sauna

where vital information was to

have been handed over.

and double-agents.

By Reg Gadney Faber, £14.99

John Betjeman's faith was bolstered by his love of church architecture, Simon Jenkins says



St Endellion, Cornwall, painted by Paul Hogarth - the huge granite blocks of the tower are said to have been brought from Lundy Island

JOHN BETJEMAN loved English churches as no man before or since. He approached them not as he did a great station or seaside pier, as a work purely of architecture or design. To him they were the embodiment of faith in stone. The ones he treasured most were the Church of England at prayer. He loved to quote Comper's definition of ecclesiastical architecture, that it should bring you to your knees at first

caricature is an intriguing

John Murray's collection of Betjeman's writings on churches has mined a vast quarry. His famous extended introduction to the Collins parish church guide would have occupied half this book alone, though I would have liked to read it here in its entirety rather than filleted. But we

Devotion carved from the rock of ages

IN PRAISE OF CHURCHES By John Betjeman illustrated by Paul Hogarth John Murray, £17.99

have the favourites, both in prose and verse: the evocation of the tombstone carver "from a lost world of wheelwrights and wagon-makers and innsign writers"; the essay on Minal church in Wiltshire, entering which is stepping "straight into a Jane Austen

novel"; the glories of Wren in the City of London, of the great Victorian masters, Pearson and Sedding, and, by contrast, of the much-loved chapels of Cornwall.

We recall Betjeman's fascination with bells. At Uffington, imprisoned in a cage of sound/Even the trivial seems profound", or at Wantage where "it seems a miracle/That leaf and flower should never even stir/In such

are ecumenical in taste. There are Baptist, Quaker, Methodist and Catholic churches and chapels. There is "our padre" whose "voice would reach to Heaven and make/the Rock of Ages roll". And we visit Betjeman's final resting place. St Enodoc's by the golf course by the sea in Cornwall, of which he wrote prophetically: "Oh kindly slate!/To give me shelter in this crevice

Those who find Betjeman's writing still too mannered for a harder age should beware. Paul Hogarth's watercolour illustrations play up to Betjeman's whimsicality, even sometimes parody it. But they have the measure of the man and of his loves. This is a book of light-hearted

Back in London Re superiors — one of whom is his mistress - seem suddenly reluctant to allow the investigation to continue. A very high is a polar explorer of note as

personage is involved in the vile trade; but someone inside well as the author of a dozen the department also appears to be tainted. A cross-dressing homosexual professional killer lurks sinisterly. Rosslyn's promotion to a higher grade runs into unexpected difficulties, connected with his recently ended relationship with an M16 operative. The stubborn Rosslyn carries on investigating unofficially, provoking an appalling retaliation.

Gadney delivers what we have come to expect: a meticulous plot, the accumulation of tension leading to a satisfying final explosion, well-drawn, unexaggerated characters, and a backdrop - the department — that combines staid everyday administration with outbursts of frenetic excitement Rosslyn is not the liveliest of heroes, but then he has a lot to be subdued about.

In the interests of verisimili-According to Fiennes, his tude, The Achilles Heel describes some of the unspeakable practices which are at the core of the story. Gadney is restrained and there is no element of prurient exploitation: nevertheless some - a very few - passages are unpleasant to read. We have, perhaps, become accustomed to detailed descriptions of violence and sexual acts in thrillers and crime novels, but the additional element of child participation requires this note of warning.

PETER MILLAR

One of these, The Feather Men, which exploited his SAS background and posed as "faction", topped the British bestseller lists, which I suspect is why Fiennes has decided to return to the genre in The Sett. He has spared no pains to make it convincing, including a detailed index of the vast cast of characters, and even photographs of the leading players.

In his epilogue, Fiennes stresses how much of the story he tried to check because of libel fears. It sounds good but in fact all the identifiable characters who might have cause to complain of defamation are dead, except for two who are serving long prison sentences and are linked to the main narrative only incident-

protagonist, named Alex Goodman, approached him in 1994, and asked him to write his biography. Fiennes agreed on condition he keep all the proceeds, excusing himself on the grounds that he was a Lloyd's name. Well, maybe but I think it is a dead giveaway. This book is a tour de force in its scope, ambition and edecticism, but I think it would have been just as good if he admitted he had made it all up.

MARCEL BERLINS

Telling tales out of prep school

FACING THE MUSIC By Mary Sheepshanks Century, £16.99

FLORA, beautiful, 21 and a formidably talented flautist, seems destined for stardom, until a broken heart and illness threaten to end her brilliant career.

She begins to teach music at Winsleyhurst, a boys' prep school, where Gervase, the headmaster, 20 years her senior, proffers a worn corduroyed shoulder to lean on. Somewhat implausibly they marry — familiar territory to Mary Sheepshanks, who was

herself wife to the headmaster

at Sunningdale School. Perhaps for this reason her lively descriptions of life at Winsleyhurst are the most engaging part of the book. Staff-room politics and passions run riot. Matron is a iermagant from Morningside in a petersham belt. Douglas Butler, the senior master, still regress the passing of corporal punishment. Most beguilingly there is Meg, the second matron, who has loved

Gervase in silence for 15 years. Admirers of Mary Sheepshanks's first novel placed her writing somewhere between that of Mary Wesley and Joanna Trollope. In reality her novels lack the prurience of the former and the sharp contemporality of the latter: the character of Meg could have strayed from the pages of a Barbara Pym novel. The warp and woof of Meg's holidays are cooking for her elderly parents and babysitting for her ungrateful mar-

ried siblings. Hardly surprising that life back at school seems so attractive and we know she need not worry. It is clear from the start that Flora is not a stayer. Alastair Forbes, a handsome single parent, allegedly a former member of the SAS (romantic-fiction shorthand for a virile, firm-jawed hero who is good at skinning rabbits) soon has Flora reexamining her wedding vows and packing her flute.

I just hope that Meg finally realised that Nice Girls Finish Last and grabbed her chance.

FRANCES DONNELLY | seems at times to have im-

An exciting thriller does not need to profess that it is based on unlikely truth

Pull the other

one, Ranulph

By Ranulph Fiennes IMAGINE, if you can, a plot

that links together the late CIA director William Casey, the former Pakistani President Zia ul-Haq. Winston Silcott and the Broadwater Farm riot. the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International and the Animal Liberation Front. Now try telling your readers that it is all factual.

That is exactly what Ranulph Fiennes has done in The Sett, an extraordinarily improbable epic of violence that stretches from Brixton to the Bahamas and back to Blackburn via interludes in Los Angeles and Jamaica. The story starts when an unassuming accountant out walking with his family comes across a group of men indulging in the gruesome "sport" of badgerdigging, which involves flushing the creatures out of their setts, maining them and then setting bull terriers loose to

finish them off. His attempt to stop this brutality ends with his wife and daughter being raped and murdered. He is beaten unconscious and left for dead, only to wake two days later with amnesia. The recovery of his memory leads him on a global hunt for revenge, much of it conducted via the underworld of cocaine, crack and

Fiennes: an extraordinarily improbable epic of "faction"

prostitution, with the help of an unlikely group of Peckhambased drug dealers - consisting of black Jamaican men and a female Ulster loyalist assassin - who, Robin Hoodstyle, also run a rehabilitation service for junkie children of rich parents. Phew.

Fiennes himself, of course, is an improbable enough character in real life: a cross between lan Fleming and some preposterous John Buchan hero. Educated in South Africa and at Eton, he has served in the Royal Scots and the SAS, fought in Arabia and

escapes from Louvestein in

Over the wall and far away

MICHAEL MASON has brought together some 150 accounts of escape in this collection, from the children of Israel decamping from Egypt to Ronnie Biggs going over the wall in rather more recent times. Though most recount real-life escapes, some are fictional, and it is interesting to see how meretricious and artificial Hemingway, le Carré or Joseph Heller appear when sandwiched between rough, untutored narratives of

prison or concentration camp

experience. This suggests that Mason has cast his net too wide, a suspicion that is confirmed when he remarks in his introduction that the pieces have been chosen "to remind the reader of what humans can endure and what they can inflict": the experience of prison, rather than the getaway, candlestick.

ESCAPE: An Anthology Edited by Michael Mason Chatto & Windus, £16.99

posed itself as the dominant theme of the collection.

Nevertheless, there is much here to enjoy: classical escapes, such as Casanova on the leads of the Ducal Palace in Venice; Charles II after the battle of Worcester, Bonnie Prince Charlie and Flora Mac-Donald; and a host of lesserknown escapers from prisons and prison-camps throughout

the ages. The successful escaper has endless perseverance and ingenuity: in a First World War prison camp, a skeleton key is made from a biscuit tin and the lid of a pewter beer mug; Henry Latude, imprisoned in the Bastille, makes "an excellent saw" from an iron

Disguise is useful: Grotius

[62] as a chest of books; during the Second World War, Giles Romilly leaves Wülzburg in lipstick, scarf and camel-hair coat, and indignantly ignores the wolf-whistles of a herd of "loutish Lufwaffe youths": in 1611 Lady Arabella hoodwinks her gaolers by "drawing on a pair of great French-fashioned Hose over her Petticotes, putting on a Man's Doublet, a man-lyke Perruque with long Locks over her Hair, a blacke Hat, black Cloake, russet Bootes and a

Rapier by her Syde". But who is the doughty Lady Arabella, and why is she escaping? The book cries out for annotation, for explanation of circumstances, identity. place and time, but we are never given more than the source of the extract.

T. J. BINYON

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GOING OUT

CHILDREN

■ LONDON Aesop's Fabulous Fables Undated version of the ancient fables for ages three to eight. Lauderdale House, Waterlow Park, N6 (0181-348 8716). Today 10am & 11.30am; £3, child £2, cones available.

Cottle Sisters Circus Traditional circus adapted for the 1990s and fun for all the

Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, N22 (0836) 222232). Today/tomorrow 2pm & 5pm; £6-£10, concs available.

Easter Holiday children's activities

A "family activity cart" travels round the museum offering a variety of activities for ages three to 12. Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SWI (0171-938 8500). Today/tomorrow 10.30am-

5pm, tree.

The Famous Five Enid Blyton's classic children's tales told in musical form. King's Head. Upper Street, NI (0171-226 1916). Today/tomorrow noon, E7. cones £5.

The Golden Feather Eggbert the Space Bird. Charlotte the Caterpillar and Stanley the Stork star in delightful show for ages five and

Tricycle Theatre. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Today 11.30am & 2pm; £3, concs £2.

The Bible story, with added warmth. humour and visual wonder for ages three to nine. Little Angel Marionette Dagmar Passage, Cross Street,



There is plenty to keep the children amused, from kite-making and paper sculpture courses to storytelling sessions and theatre

Ni (0171-226 1787). Today Ham: £5, cones £4.50.

The Marsh Kine's Daughter Magical version of Hans Christian Andersen's tale for ages six and over. Little Angel Marionette

Theatre, Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, NI (0171-226 1787). Today/ tomorrow 3pm; £6, concs £5.

Miss Nightingale's Cats Discover Mr White the Tom-

Cat, Plato the Cicada, Peggy the Pony and Athena the Owl in this paw-print trail around the museum. Florence Nightingale

Museum. Lambeth Palace Road, SE1 (017]-620 0374). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm, £2.50, cones £1.50, family £5.

Pipsqueak in the Picture Painting with a mischievous little mouse in this show for ages three to five.

Little Angel Marionette Theatre. Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, NI (0171-226 1787). Tomorrow 11am; £5, cones £4.50.

REGIONAL ABERDEEN Children can make their own using plastic bags, paper and ribbons in this workshop for ages seven and over. Marischal Museum Marischal College. Broad

Street (01224 273131). Tomorrow 2.30pm-4.30pm; 52.50.

The Magical World of the Care-Bears Fun show with three comic adventures for ages three to ten. Belfast Civic Arts Theatre, Botanic Avenue (01232 324936). Today Ilam & 2.30pm, tomorrow 2pm & 4.30pm; £4.50, children

Youth Theatre Festival

BELFAST

Two productions a night performed by the city's finest young actors, culminating in an awards ceremony. Lyric Theatre, Ridgeway Street (01232 381081). today, phone for details.

CAMBRIDGE Playdays Live Stage version of the BBC TV children's programme, leaturing the Why Bird and Peggy Patch.

Com Exchange, Wheeler Street (01223 357851). Today liam, 2pm & 4.30pm. Tomorrow 20m & 4.30pm; £7. concs £6.

CANTERBURY Ali Baba and the Thief of Baghdad Adaptation of the classic tale of drama and intrigue with a Middle-Eastern theme. Marlowe Theatre. The Friars (01227 787/87). Tomorrow 2pm; £4.50, child £4.

GLASGOW The Wind in the Willows A musical version of Kenneth Grahame's timeless classic. King's Theatre, Bath Street (0141-227 5511). Today/tomorrow 2pm & 7pm: 54-£10, concs available.

HALIFAX The Show Must Go On Join the Eureka! staff and help save the day by putting together your own pop concert. Eureka! Museum for Children. Discovery Road (01422-330069). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm; £4.75, child £3.75, family

£14.95, under-threes free. Children's Dance Workshop A chance to learn a range of different dance styles in classes for ages eight to 13. Northern School Of Contemporary Dance,

Chapeltown Road (0113-262 5359). Today 9.30am-2.30pm 50p.

MANCHESTER Star Trek - The Exhibition A treat for all ages with exhibits including a model of the USS Enterprise and a full-size set of the transporter room from Star Trek: The Next Generation. Museum of Science &

Industry. Liverpool Road (0161-832 2244). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm, £5, cones E3, under-fives free. Vivid: Children's Workshop

Making paper sculptures using chicken wire, foil, tissue and newspaper. Ages 11 to 16. Cornerhouse. Oxford Street (0161-228 2463). Today 11.30am; £2.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE Children's Gallery Toys, games and art for the under-fives Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place (0191-232 7734). Today 10am-5pm, tomorrow 2pm-

Science Factory Science centre specially designed for children. Discovery Museum. Blandford Square (0191-232 6789). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm: free_

READING The Phantom of the Opera on Ice Spectacular tale of love and revenge with 23 of Russia's top skaters.

The Hexagon. Oueens Walk (01734 591591). Today 2.30pm & Spm. 59.50-£18.50, concs available.

SOUTHSEA The Chuckle Brothers Fun-filled, slapstick show for all the family. King's Theatre. Albert Road (01705-828282). Today Ham/2.30pm; £6, child £5.

POP

■ LONDON Beenie Man, Shocking Vibes Crew Jamaican ragga MC. The Forum. Highgate Road, NW5 (0171-344 0044). Tomorrow 7pm; £16.

David Devant & His Spirit Wife English pop band harking back to the days of music-hall. The Garage. Highbury Corner, N5 (0171-607 1818) Today 8pm: £5.

Larry Garner Mississippi blues. 100 Club. 636 0933). Tomorrow 7.30pm: £8, members £6.

Natalie Merchant East Coast folk-rocker, formerly of 10,000 Maniacs. Shepherd's Bush Empire. Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0181-740 7474). Today 7pm; £11.

Alanis Morissette Young Canadian singer songwriter.

called bim Everest.

help save more tiny lives.

Send to: Blue Cross, Freepost,

Room 676C, Shilton Road.

Shepherd's Bush Empire, Shepherd's Bush Green. W12 (0181-740 7474). Tomorrow 7pm. Officially sold out.

The Posies Seattle power-pop quartet. Astoria 2. Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-434 0403). Today 7pm;

REGIONAL **ABERDEEN** The High Llamas Sean O'Hagan takes his Beach Boys-style pop symphony on the road. Lemon Tree. West North Street (01224 642230). Tomorrow 7pm: £6, concs 24.

BIRMINGHAM The Posies See London. Foundry, Suffolk Place (0121-643 6843). Tomorrow 7.30pm; £5.

EDINBURGH The Wildhearts Punk-metal laddery. Queen's Hall. Clerk Street (0131-668 2019). Today 7.30pm; £9.

Just two weeks old, thrown onto a

building site and left to die.

This tiny bundle of fur came to Blue Cross so weak he

could barely lift his head. He needed six stitches to his

lower lip. We took him into our care and for the first time

this kitten experienced human warmth. It took weeks of

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be fought for his life be climbed so many mountains our staff

for the nine weeks he was recovering with us cost £298.

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the work of Blue Cross.

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BLUE+CROSS

We save lives

like little Everest by making a gift to Blue Cross.

To treat Everest's injuries and provide food and shelter



Sonic Youth's Lee Renaldo

GLASGOW The balladeer starts her comeback. Royal Concert Hall, Sauchiehall Street (0141-227 5511). Today 7.30pm: £9.

Sonic Youth See Critic's Choice, below. Barrowland. Gallowgate (0141-552 4601). Tomorrow 7pm; £10.

HALIFAX Terrorvision Bradford funk-rockers with a poppy edge. Victoria Theatre. Wards End (01422-351158). Today 7.30pm; £8.50.

LIVERPOOL Mike & The Mechanics Featuring Genesis guitarist Mike Rutherford. Liverpool Empire. Lime Street (0151-709 1555). Tomorrow 7.30pm; £14.

MANCHESTER Babylon Zoo Space-age gothery. Manchester Academy, Oxford Road (0161-275 2930). Tomorrow 7.30pm: E8.

★ CRITICS CHOICE Sonic Youth One of those much talkedabout and highly influential acts that consistently under-perform at the box office, Sonic Youth remain big on the fringe, their credentials as the prototype American avantgarde rock band intact. David Sinclair

Manchester Academy,

Oxford Road (0161-275 2930). Today 7.30pm; £9.50. Glasgow tomorrow (see above).

READING Northern Uproar Lads wanting to be Oasis. Alleycat, Gun Street (01734-561116). Today 8pm; £5.

JAZZ LONDON Akasae

Brazilian-edged jazz. The Vortex. Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 (0171-254 6516). Today 8pm: £7.

Scott Hamilton Quartet Tenor-playing linchpin of the US mainstream circuit. Buil's Head. Lonsdale Road, SW13 (0181-876 5241). Today Spm;

John Law's Very Trio Avant-garde pianist with Barry Guy, Louis Moholo and Paul Dunmall. Vortex. Stoke Newington Church

Street, N16 (0171-254 6516). Tornorrow 8pm: £4, concs Linda Lewis

Recently exhumed 1970s folk-funk diva. Jazz Café, Parkway, NW1 (0171-344 0044). Tomorrow 7pm; £12.

Paco de Lucia Octet Flamenco guitar king. of John McLaughlin fame. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, SEI (0171-960) 4242). Today/tomorrow 7_30pm: £10-£25.

★ CRITIC'S CHOICE: Jazz Encounters Artistic directors John and Alec Dankworth have come up with an intriguing format for chamber jazz concerts. The series opens tomorrow (Sunday) with a quartet led by Tim Garland, saxophonist with the folk-influenced group Lammas, and the lyrical American guitarist Ralph Clive Davis Towner. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore St, London Wi (0171-935 2141) Tomorrow, 7.30pm; £7.50-£15.

Clarke Peters Five Guys Named Moe's creator in cabaret. Pizza on the Fark, Knightsbridge, SWI (017)-235 5550). Today 9pm; £18.

Push Acid jazz progenitors. Ronnie Scott's. Frith Street, WI (0171-439 0747). Tomorrow Spm; £7.

Roots, Ian Shaw Quartet US bebop all-stars. Ronnie Šcott's, Frith Street, WI (0171-439 0747). Today 9pm; £12, members £7.

Pharoah Sanders Quartet

Spiritual sax legends. The Rhythmic, Chapel Market, NI (017)-713 5859). Today/ tomorrow 8pm; £15, concs £12. Dave Valentin US Latin-jazz flautist.

Jazz Café. Parkway, NWI (0171-344 0044). Today 7pm: E12. ■ REGIONAL

ABERDEEN Sierra Maestra Acoustic cuban music. Lemon Tree. West North Street (01224 642230). Today 9pm; £6, cones CHELTENHAM

Cheltenham Jazz Festival A highlight of the jazz year, outstanding line-up. Town Hall. Imperial Square (01242 227979). Today/tomorrow, phone for details. GLASGOW

Sierra Maestra See Aberdeen. Club Cubano on the Renfrew Ferry, Clyde Street (0141-227 5511). Tomorrow 9pm: £7. concs £5.

CLASSICAL

■ LONDON François Frederic Guy Piano recital, including Schubert's D784 sonata. St John's, Smith Square. SWI (0171-222 (061). Today 7.30pm: £6 & £10.

Kate Ryder/Sara Stowe Vocal and musical experimentation by Crumb. Cage. Scelsi and others. Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow 7.30pm; £5.50 & £7.50.

London Symphony Orchestra Brass/Crees sranıns. Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre. EC2 (0171-638 8891), Today 3.30pm: £6-£15.

Philharmonic/Sawallisch Brahms's 1st and 3rd Symphonies, Royal Festival Hall. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow 3pm: £5-£30.

Choir/Corp Youngsters sing Britten. Wigmore Hall. Wigmore Street, WI (0171-935 2141). Tomorrow 11.30am; £7. National Youth Wind

New London Children's

Orchestra/Hanson Khachaturian, Lindgren and Rimsky-Korsakov. Queen Elizabeth Hall. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow 3pm; £7-£12.

★ CRITIC'S CHOICE The Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra presents its Sibelius Symphony Weekend under a distinguished exponent of the great Finn's music Neeme Jarvi. Symphonies Nos I and 4 are tonight (7.30pm); No 2 and Tapiola tomorrow afternoon (4pm) and Nos 5 and 6 tomorrow night (8pm). Richard Morrison

The Barbican. Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891): £7.50-£22.50

Peter Katin Piano recital including Beethoven and Chopin. Oueen Elizabeth Hall. South Bank Centre, SEI (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow 7.45pm; £6-£12.50.

Truls Mork

Cello sonatas: Brahms, Prokofiev and Miaskowsky, Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, WI (0171-935 2141). Today 7,30pm; £6-£12 **■ REGIONAL**

BIRMINGHAM National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/Furst Bruckner and Mozart. Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Today 8pm; £5-£25. CARDIFF

BBC National Orchestra

and Chorus of

monic/Sinaisky Rachmaninov and Beethoven. Free Trade Hall. Peter Street (0161-834 1712).

Today 7.30pm; 53-516. SCARBOROUGH Northern Sinfonia/Schiff Tchaikovsky and Elgar. Spa Graná Hall. Spa Complex (01723 376 774). Today 7.30pm; £5-£8.

Wales/ McGegan

St David's Hall.

MANCHESTER

BBC Philhar-

Bach Mass in B minor.

The Hayes (01222 878444).

Tomorrow 7.30pm; 56-519.

opera **■ LONDON** Carmen Travelling Opera's production of Bizet's classic Richmond Theatre. The Green, (0181-940) 0088). Today 7.45pm; 58-520.

* CRITICS CHOICE Tosca

Keith Warner's tricksy production of Puccini's melodrama is certainly a box-office draw — English National Opera has scheduled 15 performances this spring. Janice Cairns, a soprano who always gives 110 per cent in performance, sings Sardou's put-upon opera-singer (who does the same). David Rendall plays her less than entirely satisfactory lover, and Phillip Joll joins the production as the secret police chief who exploits the cracks in their relationship. Alex Ingram

is the conductor. Rodney Milnes London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) Today 7.30pm. £8-£50. (£)



Janice Cairns in Tosca

REGIONAL **GLASGOW** Alcèste Gluck's Enlightenment score in a production from Scottish Opera. Theatre Royal, Hope Street (0141-332 9000). Today 7.15pm; £3.50-

YEOVIL Rigoletto Verdi's dramatic tragedy in English Touring Opera's production, directed by Stephen Medcalf. Octagon, (01935 22884). Today 7.30pm; £9.50-£16.50.

DANCE

■ LONDON Royal Ballet: Giselle Production by Sir Peter Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WCZ (0171-304 4000). Today 2pm & 7pm: £2-£58.50.



Sarah Wildor in Giselle

Claire Russ Ensemble: Sweet Boys
The old favourite of how women view men, explored by tive dancers. Place Theatre. Duke's Road, WCI (0171-387 0031). Today 8pm: 58, cones £6.

★ CRITIC'S CHOICE Les Grands Ballets Canadiens This company from Montreal offers contemporary work that is incisive, skilled and meaningful. New to Britain are a revival of William Forsythe's first ballet, Urlicht, a duet to Mahler music; Mark Morrisey's Quincunx, and creations for the company by choreographers Itzik Galili and Kevin O'Day. John Percival

O'Day. John Ferti Blackpool (see above, right) and Sadler's Wells Theatre. London, ECI (0171-713 6000) Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, £7.50-£17.50, cones £10.

Tap Dogs Dein Perry's tap-dancing lads return to the West End. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5045). Today 6pm & 8.45pm, £5-£22.50.

■ REGIONAL BALLYMENA Nine Glens Irish Dancing Festival Community groups compete in this annual shindig. Protestant Hall, (01960 366128), Today 9.30am-10pm; 50p day rate, concs 25p.

BARNSTAPLE Adonais Ballet Company: Arabian Nights Full-length ballet based on the tale of Scheherezade. Queens Theatre. Boutport Street (0)271 24242]. Today 7.45pm; £7-£8.50, cones £5-£6.50.

BELFAST Riverdance — The Show Song and dance phenomenon with a cast of 80. King's Hall, Balmoral (01232 665225). Today 2.30pm and 8pm £17.50-£22.50.

BLACKPOOL

Grandes Ballets Canadiens See Critic's Choice. Grand Theatre. (01253 28372) Tomorrow, 7.30pm, £12.50-£14.50.

BUXTON London City Ballet: Cinderella ` A new production of Prokofiev's ballet. Buxton Opera House. Water Street (01298 72190). Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm; £10.50-£17.50, concs available.

DARLINGTON Northern Ballet Theatre: Swan Lake 1992 production by Chris topher Gable and Michael Barrett-Pink. Civic Theatre Parkgate (01325 486555). Today 2pm and 7.30pm; £7-£18.50, concs available.

EDINBURGH Adventures In Motion Pictures: Swan Lake Matthew Bourne's Olivier Award-winning ballet. Festival Theatre. Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000). Today 2.30pm and 7.30pm; £4.50-£25.50. concs available.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE Scottish Ballet: La Sylphide/Ae Fond Kiss Adapted by Mark Baldwin. Theatre Royal, Grey Street, (0191-232) 2061). Today 1.30pm (Klimentova/Bubnov) & 7.30pm (Shinohara/ McKenzie): £4-£27.50, concs available.

THEATRE

LONDON Definitely Doris Revue-style musical celebrating the life and songs of Miss Day. King's Head, 119 Upper Street, NI (0171-226 1916). Sat, 8pm; mat Today and tomorrow, 3.30pm. Until May 26. (5)

* CRITIC'S CHOICE An Ideal Husband Only one more week to catch an unpretentiously radical reinterpretation of what most people had assumed was one of Oscar Wilde's least memorable plays, a glossy society melodrama peppered with smart aphorisms. Martin Shaw and the rest of Peter Hall's fine cast offer a touching blend of the timely and the timeless. Wilde's semi-autobiographical message crosses the eons.

Benedict Nightingale Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SWI (0171-930 8800). Today 3pm and 7.45pm. Ends April 20.

An Inspector Calls Stephen Daldry's powerful production with Nicholas Woodeson as the Inspector, Edward Peel and Susan Engel. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Today 5pm and

8.15pm. Until September.

GOING OUT

FAIRS AND SHOWS

LONDON Heritage Antiques Fair Sale and display of a wide range of jewellery, silver, glass prints and painting. Kensington Palace Hotel, De Vere Gardens, W8 (0171-937 8121). Tomorrow llam-5pm; £1.

London Birdkeeping & Small Animal

One-day bird extravaganza with everything you could want to know about keeping small animals and birds.

Alexandra Palace. Wood Green, N22 (0181-365 2121). Tomorrow 9.30am-5pm; £5, concs £4, child £1, under-fives free.

London Book Fair Sale of antique and second-hand books and prints. Russell Hotel Russell Square, WCI (0171-837 6478). Tomorrow 2pm-7pm, free.

Spring Needlecraft Fair More than 150 suppliers of embroidery. needlepoint and patchwork gather for this major event. Olympia,

Hammersmith Road, W14 (0171-603 3344). Today 9.30am-5.30pm, Tomorrow 9.30am-5pm; £8, cones £7, child £5.

■ REGIONAL BIRMINGHAM The NEC April Fair

Massive antique fair, with more than 500 exhibitors in two distinct sections, pre-1914 and pre-1940. National Exhibition Centre, (0121-780 4133). Today 11am-8pm. Tomorrow llam-opm; £5.

DUNFERMLINE Craft & Design Fair Sale and display of some of the best contemporary Scottish crafts. Glen Pavilion, (01382-731885). Tomorrow 11am-5pm; 60p, concs 30p.

EDINBURGH International Science Festival Lectures, workshops and discussions as

part of the world's largest science festival. Highlights of the festival include the Heavenly Scent Exhibition at the Royal Museum of Scotland (open daily from IOam-5pm) and Megafun With Computers at the Science Dome (open daily 10am-5pm). Plus there is a session on the Science of Baked Alaska (3pm at the Royal Museum of Scotland) and the New Zealand Flatworm (5pm at the Senate Room). Various venues, (0131-220 3977). Today/tomorrow, phone for details.

Scottish Kit Car Show The only kit car show north of the border with more than 1,000 vehicles on display. Royal Highland Centre, (0131-333 2444). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm; phone for prices.

GATESHEAD Spring Flower Show Sixth annual flower show with floral exhibits, trade and craft stalls. Gateshead Central Nursery. (0191-4901616). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm; £2.80, cones £1.40.

LINCOLN Antique & Collector's Fair The best of the region's antiques and collectibles with exhibits for sale from 1900 to the present day. Lincolnshire Showground, (01522 524240). Tomorrow 10am-5pm; 60p, concs 30p, children free.

PONTYPRIDD Model Railway Show Display of railway, engineering and other transport models. Pontypridd Historical & Cultural Centre. (01443 409512). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm; £1, concs 50p.

SHUGBOROUGH Gamekeepers' Fair Day of events including arena demonstrations, gun-dog competitions, falconry and clay pigeon shooting. Shugborough House, (01889 881388). Today/tomorrow 10am-5pm; £5, child free.



Animal lovers should head for the Birdkeeping and Small Animals Fair in London

◆ Dead Man Walking

Sarandon visits Sean Penn on

powerful drama. Director,

(0171-935 9772) Fulham Road

(0171-370 2636) Shaftes-

Odeon Kensington (01426 914666) Phoenix (0181-883

2233) Renoir (0171-837

Whiteleys (2) (0171-792

◆ Get Shorty (15)

Director, Barry

Sonnenfeld.

3332) Warner 🗟 (0171–137

John Travolta's loanshark

Clapham Picture House

437 1234) MGMs: Fulham

0031) Odeon Świss Cottage

Whiteleys 🔕 (0171-792 3332)

◆ Leaving Las Vegas (IS)

Nicolas Cage drinks himself to death. Director

Mike Figgis.

MGM Swiss Centre (0)71-

(0171–437 1234)Warner 🗟

(01426 915683) Plaza

Dracula's offspring in

Clapham Picture House

(0171-498 3323) ICA (5) (0171-930 3647) MGM Totten-

ham Court Road (0171-636

COMEDY

(0171-437 4343)

Nadja (15)

New York

■ LONDON

Banana Cabaret

Boothby Graffoe, Paul

439 4470) Odeon Mezzanine

Road (0171-370 2636)

(01426 914098) *UCI*

Trocadero (5) (017)-434

takes on the movie business.

(0171-498 3323) Empire (0171-

bury Avenue (0171-836 6279)

8402) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI

Oscar-winner Susan

Death Row in this

MGMs: Baker Street

Tim Robbins.

COMING SOON



See Tina Turner in action around Britain

From April 24 Fidelio

Graham Vick directs a new English National Opera production, with Kathryn Harries as Leonore, London Coliseum. Box Office: 0171-632 8300.

May 21, 22, 25, 30, 31 Birmingham Royal Ballet

Three programmes at the Royal Opera House, including two works by David Bintley — Carmina Burana, showing with Frederick Ashton's Birthday Offering and Far From the Madding Crowd. Box Office: 0171-304 4000.

May 22-August 26 Degas — Beyond Impressionism Major retrospective at the National Gallery. Advance bookings: 0171-420 0000.

■ REGIONAL June, July Tina Turner Croke Park, Dublin

drawings together.

free.

Courtauld Institute

(June 28, 00 35 31 8363222): Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh (June 30, 0131-557 6969): Gateshead International Stadium. Gateshead (July 12, 019)-478 5555/7777); Cardiff Arms Park (July 14, 01222 230130) Don Valley Stadium, Sheffield (July 18. 0114 2797997), Wembley Stadium (July 20-21,

SCARBOROUGH April 24 By Jeeves Alan Ayckbourn and Andrew Lloyd Webber's

musical opens the new Stephen Joseph Theatre-inthe Round, from April 24-June 1. Box Office: 01723 STRATFORD-ON-

0181-900 (234).

AVON From April 17 New RSC Season A new production of As You Like It at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre (from April I8) and Webster's The White Devil (from April 17). Box office: 01789 295623.

Thomas Gainsborough 332900). Sat 10am-5pm, First chance to see 50

Galleries, Somerset House, Strand. WC2 (0171-873 2526). Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2pm-6pm, Museum,

Leonardo da Vinci One hundred drawings by the master. Queen's Gallery. Buckingham Palace, SWI (0171-799 2331). Sat/Sun 9.30am-4.30pm, £3.50. cones \$2.50.

■ REGIONAL ABERDEEN El Greco: Christ Driving the Traders from the Temple Unique opportunity to study this work in isolation. Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill (01224 646333). Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm.

CAMBRIDGE Primavera: Pioneering Art & Design 1945-1995 Includes work by Hans

Sun 2.15pm-5pm, free.

DUNDEE The Twentieth-Century Gallery Work by James Macintosh Patrick. Dundee Art Gallery & Albert Square (01382) 432020). Sat 10am-5pm, free.

GLASGOW Gallery of Modern Art Populist Scottish art. Gallery of Modern Art. Queen Street (0)41-331 1:541 Sat 10am-5pm, Sun Ham-

LIVERPOOL Home and Away: Internationalism and British Art 1900-1990 Includes work by Stanley Spencer, Freud and Bacon. Tate Gallery Liverpool.

Albert Dock (0151-709 3223). Sat/Sun 10am-6pm, free. NOTTINGHAM New World Imagery Jamaican art. Angel Row (0115 947 6334).

MANCHESTER Julian Clary

■ REGIONAL

comedy circuit.

The Posse

for prices.

LUTON-

Simon Day

and friends.

BIRMINGHAM

Highlights from the black-

4455). Today 7.30pm, phone

Joined by Tommy Cockles

St George's Square (01582 21628). Today ^opm: £9.

St George's Theatre.

Birmingham Rep. Broad Street (0121-236

Apollo Theatre, Ardwick Green (0161-242 2560). Today 7.30pm; £10.50.

Barrel of Laughs Richard Allen and Grant Baynham. Frog & Bucket, Newton Street (0161-236 9805). Today 8.30pm; £4, cones £3.

NOTTINGHAM Just The Tonic Anvil Springsteen. Fletcher Gate (0115 953 7755). Tomorrow 8.30pm; £5.

GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS **■ LONDON**

Jean-Michel Basquiat First UK retrospective of the black American artist. Serpentine Gallery. Kensington Gardens, W2 (0171-402 6075), Sat/Sun 10am-6pm, free.

★ CRITIC'S CHOICE Avis Newman In her first exhibition in Britain for five years, Newman reveals her mature quality as a painter. The main gallery is devoted to large canvases. As you approach, they reveal the delicate marks Newman has made on their black or white surfaces. The paintings are her most impressive achievement subtle, melancholy and Richard Cork yet lyrical. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Rd NW3 (0171-435 2643) until May 5.

Cézanne Major retrospective including 90 paintings. Tate Gallery, Millbank, SWI (0171-887

Coper and Dan Arbied. Fitzwilliam Museum. Trumpington Street (01223 Satire with Julian Clary THE STREET

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Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Philip Schofield plays the lad with the pretty jacket in a revival of the first Lloyd Webber/Rice creation. Labatt's Apollo. Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0171-416 6082). Today 3pm and 7.30pm. Until Apr 20.

The Relapse Victor Spinetti plays the fretful Lord Foppington in Ian Judge's production.

Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 7.15pm; mat 2pm. In rep with The Devil is an Ass. (2)

The Prince's Play Ken Stott plays the Rigoletto role in Victor Hugo's Le Roi S'Amuse transposed to Victorian London by Tony Harrison, with the Prince of Wales as the cool philanderer. Richard Eyre directs. National, (Lyttelton). South Bank, SEI (0171-928 2252). Previews tomorrow. 8pm, then Apr 15-18, 7.15pm;

Skylight Ourstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lia Williams in David Hare's dramatisation of society's conflicts in the form of a reunion between two lovers. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Today 3pm and 8pm. Until Apr 27.

opens Apr 19. 7pm. 🔊

■ REGIONAL **EDINBURGH** Pygmalion Michael Mackenzie teaches and Emily Winter learns how to speak

proper in Hugh Hodgart's production. Royal Lyceum Grindlay Street (0131-229 9697). Tonight, 7.45pm. Until May 4.

HORSHAM Howard's End Snap Theatre Company's vibrant adaptation of E.M. Forster's study of Edwardian class divisions. Arts Centre, North Street (01403

259708). Tonight. Spm. HULL The Canterbury Tales Last night here for this adaptation by Michael Bogdanov, written by Robin Davies. Kingston Square (01482

LEEDS The Entertainer Anthony Clark's acclaimed production, with David Ross superb in the title role, direct from its Birmingham premiere. Quarry.

226655). Tonight, 7.30pm; mat

West Yorkshire Playhouse. The Quarry, Hill Mount (0113-244 2111). Today, 3pm and 7.30pm. Until Apr 20.

MANCHESTER

A tenth-anniversary tour blockbusters Jacqui Scott. Bogdan Kominowski and Maurice Clarke. Music by the Abba team of Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus: lyrics by Tim Rice. Opera House, Quay Street (0161-242 2509). Today 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Until Apr 20. 3

FILM

Films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country

■ NEW RELEASES

★ CRITIC'S CHOICE Mighty Aphrodite (15) Amazed at the high IQ of his adopted son, Woody Allen goes in search of his natural mother. He expects the equivalent of Einstein: he finds a dumb tart with a heart. Alien, of course, plays the schmuck, and Oscar-winner Mira Sorvino gives a well-rounded performance as the porno actress who inspires Allen to play matchmaker. With Helena Bonham Carter.Geoff

Brown Barbican (2) (0171-638 8891) Chelsea (0171-351 3742) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) ICA 🖺 (0171-930 3647) Odeons: Haymarket (01426 915353) Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Phoenix (0181-883 2233) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys 🔊 (0171-792 3332) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

◆ Broken Arrow (15) John Travolta steals nuclear weapons; Christian Slater tries to get them back. Bumptious action movie directed by John Woo. MGM Chelsea (017)-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Marble Arch (01426 914501) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01426-915 574) UCI Whiteleys (0171-792

◆ City Hall (15) Something's rotten in the city of New York, even with Al

Pacino as Mayor. With Bridget Fonda. MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) Odeons: Kensington (01426-914 666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Whiteleys (0171-792 3332)



Helena Bonham Carter

◆ Braveheart (15) Mel Gibson directs and stars in his Oscar-laden. blood-thirsty epic about William Wallace.

Arnaud (PG) Claude Sautet's subtle tale

vounger woman. With Michel Serrault and Emmanuelie Beart. Curson Mayfair (0171-369 1720) Gate (0171-727 4043) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Hill (0171-435 33661

9156831

led by veterans of musical

3332)

Nelly and Monsieur

Empire (5) (0171-437 1234) Odeon Mezzanine (5) (01426

about an older man and a

■ CURRENT

Ruth Gledhill shares a spiritual sunrise in Yorkshire on Easter Sunday

Faith dawns eternal



TO STAND at the top of a hill in the Pennines, North Yorkshire, at 5am on Easter Day, when most people are asleep in bed, turned into a tripartite if not trinitarian act of faith. We were there to see

the sun rise on a day when Christian churches worldwide were celebrating the rising of the Son of God. The view was spectacular, despite the mist and drizzle, which allowed no sight

of the sun itself. Only the cock crowing three times at a farm we passed on the mile-long stony path to the top of Farnhill Pinnacle in Airedale, and the gradually dawning light around us, supported the assertion of our minister that the sun had indeed risen. We duly launched into our third hymn, Shine, Jesus shine, Fill this land with the Father's gloty.

We had also needed faith to believe we were not alone in an act that seemed at times insane - despite the Methodism in our madness. The annual Sunrise Service at Farnhill is organised by the local Methodist minister, for the last three years the Rev Mollie Greenwood, and usually attracts Methodists from chapels for miles around, as well as members of

other denominations. But a few weeks ago, the Methodist Church announced an alarming trend of disaffection, with churchgoing figures

showing it was losing 26 members a day. Our climb by torchlight was solitary. with little but an enormous white cement rock with a cross atop it to indicate we had arrived at our destination. We wondered if anyone else would show up. But gradually, they did, and in

ATYOUR SERVICE

★ A five-star guide ★ MINISTER: The Rev Molife

SERMON: None here, although the minister went on to take three more services that day.

ARCHITECTURE: Spectacular scenery marred only by the orange street lights in the valley below. ***

LITURGY: Prayers, hymns and reading. *** MUSIC: Bravely attempted hymns,

although the presence of a small orchestra seemed little short of miraculous *** AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Tea, coffee and hot-cross buns, consumed with relish in the Methodist chapel at the

foot of the hill. ****

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Early-morning

petulence transformed into

acceptance and serenity by the

impressive numbers. Entire families and their dogs, trailing children and pensioners, arrived at the top of the hill in overcoats, woolly hats and mufflers. They brought an orchestra with them. Everything from a battery-powered electric organ to a flute, tambourine and even a cello was valiantly carried up that

"Alleluia! Christ is risen!" cried Ms Greenwood. "Above us we have the light dawning on this Easter Day. The light will cast out every trace of darkness," she said. "We come believing that Christ's resurrection casts out the darkness of despair which otherwise could so easily overpower us." ·

The children and teenagers seated on tomb-like stones narrated the biblical resurrection story, and the minister prayed: "Lord, we gather together to worship you, to give our adoration, our thanks and our praise. We unite with thanks as one, with joy and happiness, to welcome you, the risen Lord."

She prayed for those sleeping in the

faintly incredulous that we had walked

valley below, "with all their needs, hopes and fears". After our last hymn we offered each other the peace, and descended the hill, Includes Mickey Hutton.

miles, climbed a hill and been to church Day. and it was still only 7.30am. Easter Sunrise Service at Farnhill Pinnacle, near Kildwick, N Yorkshire, The Rev Mollie Greenwood, 01535 635140.

Tonkinson and Mike Hayley. Bedford Hill, SW12 (0181-673 1756). Today 9pm; £6, concs.

Yashere, Dan Evans, Will Smith. Hackney Empire. Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424). Tomorrow 8pm; £6.

Best in Stand-up

Phil Jupitus introduces the

winners: Noel Britten, Gina

Best New Act of '96

Fred MacAuley MCs. Comedy Store. Oxendon Street, SW1 (01426 914433). Today 8pm & midnight; £10.

* CRITIC'S CHOICE

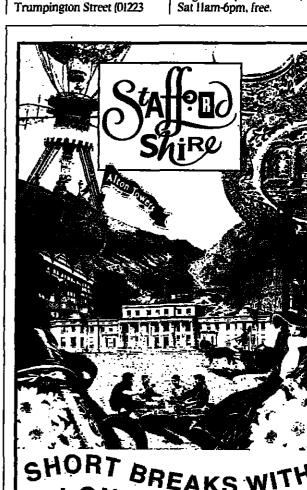
John Hegley Bespectacled swot with retro cool, this silly but sharp stand-up poet will doubtless recite his stanzas with customary pedantry. Kate Bassett

Lavender Hill. Battersea SWII (0171-223 2223), Today and tomorrow, 8pm.

Jongleurs Comedy Club Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road. NWI (0171-924 2766). Today 7.15pm & 11.15pm; £10, concs £7.

Matt Welcome and Kevin

8000), Sat/Sun 10am-5.50pm. £7, concs £4.



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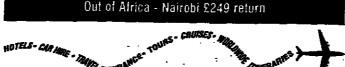
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on Page 20



PARADISE FOUND

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Spain: the haunting beauty of the Alhambra palace and a dead poet's society make Granada unforgettable

Echoes of the Moors' last sigh



The magnificent Alhambra palace sits on a lofty spur beneath the Sierra Nevada surrounded by lush gardens. Inside it is a treasure house of exquisite Moorish decorative arts

the Alhambra Garcia Lorca detained us on the way. "Stop," my wife said, scanning the map. "I think he was born over there, in Fuen-

I pulled off the motorway, ers, and moved into a zone of unexpected rurality. Donkey and mule carts were bringing home fodder for the animals: long streamers of tobacco leaf hung drying in barns; dense groves of poplar swayed in the

It was into this agricultural scene that Lorca, the poet and dramatist, was born in 1898. He was shot dead at the age of 38, in 1936, at the height of his powers in an "execution" by Nationalist thugs in the opening days of the Spanish Civil

The Lorca family house in Fuentes Vaqueros, about nine miles west of Granada, is now a museum and the village school is called the Colegio Publico Federico Garcia Lorca. All is as it should be. But it is for the imposing Alhambra, rather than Lorca's work, that the richness of the garden valley, the wega, is best known.

The Alhambra sits on a defensible spur beneath the lofty Sierra Nevada, lording it over the plains. Inside, it is a treasure house of Moorish decorative arts, with ara-besques of seemingly infinite patterns, exquisité ceilings and wall tiles, bound together by an architecture so delicately



weightlessness. All of it was based on agricultural wealth, not only the Palatine city on the spur but the more humble city below where ordinary people lived.

brilliant irrigators and managers of water, so it comes as no surprise that water is a central element of the Alhambra. You feel its presence everywhere, from the Generalife gardens above, with their long, axial pool, down to the Courtyard of the Lions, where water runs in four channels from delicate, pillared pavilions, to symbolise the rivers of paradise, and the long, dark pool of the Courtyard of the Myrtles, where at night the sultans could see the reflection of their palace and the glimmering stars. Water meant

suddenly, as the fortress that it was, as well as pleasure palace and centre of power. None of which, of course, should distract you from the less-visited city of Granada below. Some find this city melancholy, perhaps because of the historical record. In 1492 Ferdinand and Isabel, the king and queen of Aragon and Castile, captured Granada and put an end to Moorish rule in Spain.

Christian Granada seems to be quite jolly as well as somewhat sad, its moods exemplified by the great number of students at university and language schools, and the presence of the bourgeoisie, so

monastery, now inhabited by nums of a closed order, its cloister full of Renaissance doorways. its church lined with 18th-century frescoes. We stood enchanted in the cloister, among sweet-smelling orange trees, while the invisible nuns sang in their closed chapel, their voices rising thin as those

of schoolgirls. Since last year there has been something extra in Granada, an addition for those with an interest in that powerful local talisman, Federico Garcia Lorca. When the Lorca

they kept a little "country house" about ten minutes' walk away on the city's edge. Here they would spend the bedroom overlooking roses and cypress trees, Lorca wrote many of his finest poems and several of his plays. The house.

just been opened to the public, with Lorca's niece, Laura Garcia-Lorca, as director. Furnished with its original contents - including a tablecloth embroidered in traditional patterns by Lorca's mother it is a perfectly preserved Spanish interior of the 1920s and 1930s.

pal-style park and close to a and the beauty of the verses family finally moved from the motorway-style bypass, has that he wrote here there is

FACT FILE

(0171-830 0011). Return fare for the London Granada flight (via Madrid or Barcelona) is from E169, plus £5 tax. In Granada he stayed at the three-star Hotel Guadalupe (00 34 58 223423) as a guest of Travellers' Way (01527 to the Albambra, offers a double room with breakfast at about £57, plus 7 per cent VAT. Even doser to the Alhambra is the Moorish-style Alhambra Palace (00 34 58 22 14 68), where B&B VAT. There is also the pricier Parador de San monastery, within the Alhambra walls (00 34 58 22 14 40, or via Keytel on 0171-402 8182). At the foot of the Albaicin, is the Hotel Triumfo (00 34 58 20 74 44), with B&B from about £57, plus VAT. One of the best restaurants, serving typical Granada cuisine with a distinct Arabic touch, is the in the Albaicin. In the nottoo-fancy category is the Meson Andaluz, Calle Elvira 10. Spanish National Tourist Office, 57 St James's 1LD (0171-499 0901).



nowhere in the city - except for the Alhambra - and the memory of its vanquished princes — that better signifies Granada's bitter-sweet cock-

tail of sadness and delight. "Many Spanish visitors cannot enter my uncle's bedroom." Laura Garcia-Lorca told us. "They just stand on the

ADAM HOPKINS





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Homes that are as old as the hills

WEST from Granada, an hour or so beyond the place of Lorca's death, you reach cave country — inhabited by troglodytes, Adam Hopkins writes.

Dug into the base of huge clay riverbanks or hills of the same hard clay. these dwellings have as many as eight or ten rooms to accommodate a sprawling family. The rooms all run into one another or are reached by little tunnels, brilliantly whitewashed like the interiors of other Andalusian houses.

Because of the constant year-round temperature of 20F they make comfortable homes, and if you put your kitchen and bathroom on the front where you will probably have windows in the clay façade, problems of condensation are minimal. These days, too, all the homes have running water and electricity. Sadly, the caves fell out of favour during the 1960s and most of those who could afford to moved into apartment blocks, leaving behind many empty caves.

and some in the hands of the poor.
Enter the Martinez family, building constructors from the strange city of Guadix, capital of cave country. The

family has bought a neighbourhood of hillside caves and converted 30 of them into a hotel complex — the Cuevas Pedro Antonio de Alarcon (named after the local man who wrote the tale of the threecornered hat, source book for Manuel de Falla's opera). Rooms have been dug out and made much bigger. The wooden

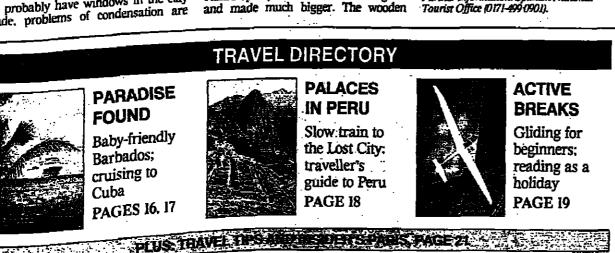
furniture is painted, local-style, like gypsy waggons. There's a cave dining room serving local dishes and, if it wasn't for a motorway running in the valley beneath, it would be a troglodytic idyll.

The hotel opened late last year and I

was the first foreign visitor. I'd go back like a shot for the extraordinary land-scape of eroded clay and the pleasure of sleeping inside a hill with its views of the Sierra Nevada. I predict a fashionable future for the

caves of the Guadix hinterland.

■ Book via Andalusian Charming Hotels (00 34 5 2445591). Cave with two double rooms and kitchen/living room from about £40. Further information: Spanish National Tourist Office (0171-499 0901).



Caribbean: a dream family holiday in Barbados; exploring the haunting landscape of Costa Rica and ...

New hands rock the cradle

he first thing you need after a nine-hour flight is a refreshing dip in the sea. But as I emerged from the foam. I was bleeding and half-blind. I had chanced on a piece of coral and cut myself, and then a stray wave knocked off my prescription glasses, leaving me staggering around in the sand gering around in the sand.

And this was just the beginning of our family holiday in Barbados. Could it improve with an II-monthold baby and an exhausted banker husband in tow?

The answer was a resounding yes. A week at the newly opened Almond Beach Village hotel was the answer to our prayers.

The village opened in December last year to cater for working parents who need a relaxing break with their offspring. As a father of two. Ralph Taylor, managing di-rector of Almond Beach Village and its sister hotel, Almond Beach Club. was well aware of the problems faced by holidaymakers with children. Until the Almond Beach opened, there was nowhere on the island which provided a compre-hensive family holiday. Bajan culture is of the "children should be seen and not heard" variety.

If parents were asked to name their ideal holiday facilities, top of their list would be a hotel crèche which opened from 9am-5pm. It would be manned by trained personnel whom you trusted. It would take tiny babies as well as older children. The staff would be happy to prepare bottles of formula hunt down parents should their children become distressed. There would be cots for afternoon naps and an outside play area.

There would be warm sea and safe swimming off sandy beaches, with adequate shade so little Johnny didn't burn. And baby-sitters to enable soirées at beach-side restaurants at reasonable prices.

There would be good-sized rooms with space for a cot and a fridge to store bottles. Even better would be a "one-bedroom suite" with an adjoining sitting room to double as a haby's bedroom. The restaurants would provide highehairs and the staff and other guests would be understanding and sympathetic.

All this, and more, is provided by Almond Beach Village. For those with older children, the all-inclu-

FACT FILE

■ The author was a guest of Almond Beach Village, which has 280 rooms and a family centre.

Almond Beach resort's all-inclusive holiday includes: return flights and transfers, accommodation breakfast, lunch, tea. dinner, unlimited wine, beer, branded drinks and soft drinks with lunch and dinne sports activities; qualified instruction; children's clubs and nursery; evening entertainment; insurance.

■ Prices for a seven-night package: adults from £1,196; there is no charge for children up to 12 staying in parents' rooms. Child flights cost from £393. Children travel free up to



the age of two. The price for the second child depends on

Simply Caribbean are experts in tailor-made holidays to the Caribbean. For more information, a brochure or to book, telephone 01423 526887

sive price means parents don't have to keep dishing out money for icecreams and popcorn. In an imaginative touch, treats are dispensed every afternoon from a candy-

striped bicycle. Of course, no hotel can deal with the inevitable jet-lag which disturbs children's sleep for the first couple of days. And no hotel can soothe your baby to sleep at 8pm when the little angel thinks it is time for his afternoon outing. Nor can it save you from the unbelievable amount of luggage a baby imposes.

ut whatever horrors the nights bring, the village creche means that parents can take a siesta during the day to catch up on their sleep. It also ensures that parents can pick 'n' mix their holiday - playing with junior, visiting Villa Nova, Anthony Eden's former home on the east coast of the island. After watching the baby splash around in one of the village's nine pools, you can visit the capital. Bridgetown, and admire Nelson's Column in the main square.

This was indeed the holiday of our dreams. The turquoise sea and white-sand beaches, the scent of

tropical flowers and old-fashioned Bajan charm all worked their

There were some minor gripes. Child monitors would have been helpful. English ones don't have the range for the village's 30-acre site. Dinner time also brought its problems; either you hired a babysiner at £3.50 an hour or interrupted your candle-lit meal to nip back to the room and check that the baby was sleeping peacefully. However, the hotel promises to investigate the provision of monitors.

While the food was excellent, it wasn't baby-friendly. One solution was to buy jars from the local supermarket. Another was to ask a chef in one of the village's four restaurants if he would cook something simple such as scrambled eggs or grilled fish - and more often than not he would oblige.

One important point to remember is that if your baby is over a year old, he or she is unlikely to fit into a British Airways bassinet. Instead, you will have the child on your lap for most of the flight. Smart mothers book a child seat and bring a car seat with them.

e stood in the moon-

light, gazing up at the towering Arenal volcano, its peak shrouded in dark, drifting cloud. It chun-

tered and huffed away like a grumpy old steam engine. Spiralling plumes of reddish-tinged black smoke and ash broke the cloud cover. Red-hot

lava glowed on the barren

Our Tico guide spoke decent

English and conveyed his

disappointment. He wanted

us to see the spectacular

nocturnal pyrotechnics of a

huge eruption. We waited

expectantly for an hour or so.

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lower slopes.



RACHEL KELLY Parents are free to enjoy watersports while children are looked after at the Almond Village creche

Megaship boost for cheaper cruising

MORE than 350,000 British holi-daymakers will cruise the Caribbe an and Mediterranean this year, and the travel industry is convinced that by the turn of the century this number will have doubled.

Despite reports of fires in midocean, unfinished maintenance work, ships running into sub-merged reefs, and a "disastrous" start for Thomson in the market, nothing can apparently halt the surge in interest in cruising.

The biggest stimulus to growth has been created by the cheaper voyages offered by the massmarket tour operators. Airtours, for example, has teamed up with the American cruise company Carnival to enable British holidaymakers to fly to Florida, spend three___ nights in a hotel and then four nights aboard one of the company's "floating resorts" — ten-deck super-liners — from £499 per person.

Even as its first chartered vessel, Sapphire, was running into prob-lem after problem in the Mediterranean this week. Thomson announced that "following the success of its new Mediterranean cruises" it would be offering trips in the Caribbean on board Horizon, a Greek-owned ship in the Celebrity Cruises fleet, from £669 for a week

THE advent of charters now bring tropical cruising within reach of a makers, with prices comparable to many of the most popular Caribbean beach holidays," says Thom-son's managing director Charles Newbold.

A 23-night cruise on P&O's flagship *Oriana* costs from £1.995, and holidaymakers spending Christmas and New Year at sea between Mombasa and the Seychelles will pay El4.660 per person for a suite on Cunard's Sea Goddess 1.

As the demand grows, however, more islands are having to tackle the problems caused by what amounts to floating blocks of flats (and all too often their accumulated rubbish) arriving at their prettiest ports and then sailing away having contributed little or nothing to the local economy.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

Friendly Above



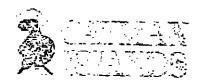
Friendly Below

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Explosions of natural beauty

brilliant fireworks display that blazed in the night sky. It was our last night in Costa

Rica, which lies between Nicaragua and Panama and has coastlines on both the Caribbean and the Pacific, and nature had provided an unforgettable grand finale. This was a memorable trip

'Sorry, no good tonight," he and, mostly, the memories are fond ones. As a couple of 60-plus-year-olds, we should, per-My wife and I made for the truck, ready for bed at the nearby mountain lodge. And haps, have opted for a quieter then the unpredictable giant life. We rode roughtrack for rumbled and roared. The four hours on horseback to get cloud cleared momentarily to to the top of another volcano reveal a perfect conical shape. and down again. We sampled and the peak exploded into a the excitement and nerve-

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jangling risks of white water rafting. We thrust through narrow, log-strewn jungle waterways in a small boat. We drove where signposts were non-existent and the potholes were like mantraps.

It was no rest cure. Costa Rica has miles of deserted golden beaches and a scattering of excellent hotels for those who simply want to laze in the tropical sun. But that is to waste an opportunity to explore and appreciate a country which, in an area about the size of Switzerland, packs in an extraordinary diversity of scenic and climatic changes with flora and fauna to match S per cent of the world's

plant and animal species and 10 per cent of its butterflies. It boasts more protected national parkland for its size than any other nation, has Latin America's longest unbroken record for democratic government, and abolished its army in 1949.

There is, of course, a downside. Outside the protected areas, the marvellous rainforests are logged, legally and illegally, at an alarming rate.

Cleared land is needed to grow vital bananas and coffee exports. Crime is mostly petry but a tourist kidnap and one or two attacks on tourist groups have the Government worried. Gun-toting police are in evidence. A drugs problem is

That said, you are un-, doubtedly far safer on holiday in Costa Rica, among its friendly people, than in many parts of Europe or North America. Get away from the capital, San José, a hot, smelly, traffic-jammed, architectural atrocity, and there is little hassle.

linked to financial corruption.

We spent our first week on re-arranged excursions. If we had known what we were in for we would have baulked. We were up before six o'clock each morning to be whisked to our daily destiny, always in the essential 4x4 vehicle.

We took in Cartago, the old colonial capital, and Irazú, the country's highest volcano at 11,265ft, with its weirdly impressive moonscape appearance, Our road to Turnalba



Richly coloured iguanas roam the spectacular landscape

was a mixture of ruts. boulders and mini-craters. We were warmly welcomed

at our mountain lodge berth but our high-altitude night was bitterly cold. Our ride to the top of Turrialba's extinct volcano offered panoramic views of breathtaking beauty above the cloud forest.

White-water rafting on the formidable, rain-swollen Pacuare river meant 30 miles of rocks, rapids and turbulent

rushing water to navigate, all a bit much for beginners. Several tourists went overboard from our little convoy of rafts. We made it, soaked, exhilarated - and mightily relieved.

A small canopied launch took us 50 scenic miles through jungle waterways to Tortuguero, on the humid Caribbean coast. We goggled at howler and spider monkeys.

Continued on next page

FROM BAALBECK TO PALMYRA

Our newly to be mangurated flight from London Catwick to Damascus enables us to offer a comprehersive visit to two of the most important countries of antiquitity in the Middle East, which have been little-visited in the recent past. The Syrian section of the itinerary takes in the familiar sites of Damascus. Crac des Chevaliers and Palmyra whilst in Lebanon wevisit both the ancient sites of Baalbeck and Palmyra together with a restful two-night stay at Anfe on Lebanon's Corniche. This is without doubt a wonderful opportunity to visit some of the

world's most interesting sites. We reach Damascus in the evening and spend the first night in the oldest living city in the world and the Islamic capital under the Omayyads. Exploration of the city has to be on foot, navigating the tortuousalleys of the old city is wonderful. Palmyra is a very special place - the city has colonnaded

well known for the Temple of Baal. The Lebanese are proudly aware that they stand at a historic crossroads. Behind them lie two decades of violence that claimed thousands of lives and brought the country's economy, its shattered capi-tal, suburbs and towns, and even its people, to the edge of anarchy. In front of them is the Lebanon's prized reputation as the Middle East's market place and the quintessential travel destination.

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ITINERARY IN BRIEF Day 1 Gatwick to Damascus (2 nts). Day 2 City tour. Day 3 Visit Palmyra then drive to Homs (Int). Day 4 Drive to Crac des Cheva-

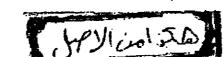
tiers, enter Lebanon for Anfe (2 nts). Day 5 Visit Tripoli, Becharreh and the Cedars. Day 6 Visit Byblos and Berrut. Continue to Zhale (2 nts). Day 7 Baalbeck. Day 8 Return to Damascus for the flight

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES 1996 Mondays - per person in a twin September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 £650 October 7, 14, 21, 28, 650 November 4, 11, 18, 25, 650 December 2, 9, 16, £650 December 23, 30, £685

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TRAVEL

a luxury cruise aboard the world's biggest liner which oozes style and comfort and caters for every taste

Princess who won't be weather-beaten

he is big, beautiful ... and runs rings round Fidel Castro. The lady in question is the epitome of capitalism, oozing Italian style and brash American wealth: she is the Sun Princess, the largest cruise liner in the world.

When you first set eyes on her for the week's cruise - which departs from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to circle Cuba en route to the Bahamas, Jamaica, Grand Cayman and the Mexican island resort of Cozumel - the liner looms so massive from the quayside that she seems more like a de luxe New York apartment block than anything which could possibly put to sea.

Yet put to sea she does, to a rowdy fanfare of hooting and cheering, complete with all the superlatives you might expect — taller than Nelson's Column. enough electric cables to reach from London to Moscow, enough carpets to cover all but two miles of the London marathon route.

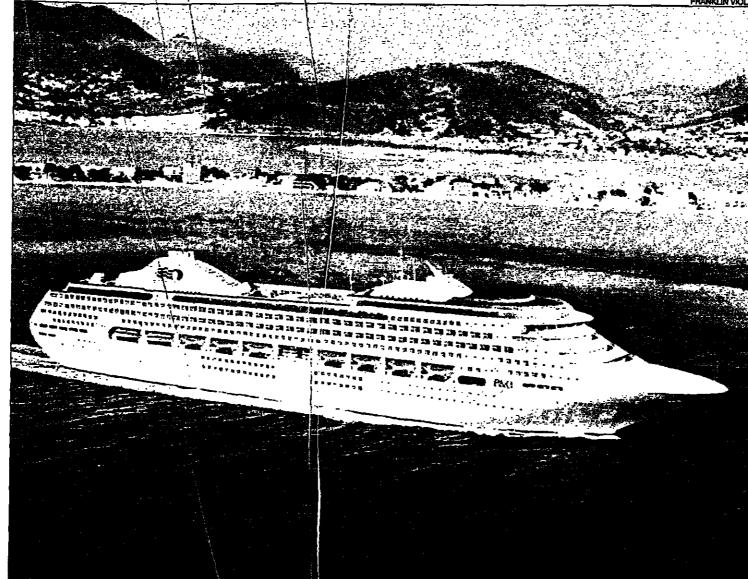
The \$300 million (£188 million) P&O Sun Princess also carries enough food to make a serious dent in the shortages felt by Cuba's siege-economy islanders, with 600 dozen eggs, 1,500 steaks and 2,000 pounds of pasta consumed by the ship's 1.950 passengers every

The Saturday we set sail, the citrus growers of Florida were railing against some of the coldest weather on record, which dragged its coat-tails across the Caribbean. A chilly wind whipped the legs of the optimistically shorts-clad cruise passengers, while a steel band did its best to evoke a tropical atmo-

sphere in the unseasonable cold. Next morning dawned grey and drizzly, as did the next and the next As a result, we had to rely on the ship's recreational facilities far more than we would have done had the sun been shining. The first port of call. Princess Cays, a secluded hay on the Bahamian island of Eleuthera, would have been heavenly in the heat, but it was a bit like Hunstanton on a bad weekend in

the gloom.

Most passengers queued for almost an hour to take one of the Sea Princess's motorised launches for the choppy trip to Princess Cays, wandered forlornly for an hour or two around the only eatery and bar in sight - Hard Rock Cafe sort of bar becue most village fêtes could manage to outdo - then queued again for the crossing back to the comparative comfort and



Built for pleasure: the Sun Princess's route includes Cuba, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Grand Cayman and Cozumel in Mexico

warmth of the ship. Hardly anyone spent the entire day ashore.

But all this did not mar the marine dream because the Sun Princess seems to be one of the few liners which can keep its customers satisfied even on the rare occasions when the weather is poor. Holidaymakers from rival cruise ships whom we met during visits ashore said they felt the service and facilities aboard their vessels were not good enough to make up for the lack of sunshine.

The Sun Princess tries to treat passengers like royalty. There is a canny mixture of space and intimacy, of marbled splendour and relaxed, casual nooks. There is plenty to do for those feeling energetic and a myriad secluded corners indoors and out for reading

ctivities include concerts in two full-sized theatres, on-board shops, gym, tenour favourite places were the library-cum-reading room, which would do most London gentlemen's clubs proud, and a wood-panelled games room with enough board games and bridge lessons to keep the most cerebrally-oriented occupied. All this as well as a swimming

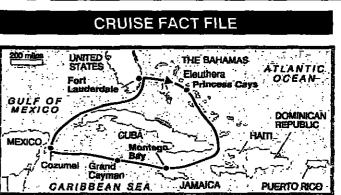
pool and two splash pools. All the food you could possibly

eat. available 24 hours a day, is included in the price. The Sun Princess has two main dining rooms for formal meals, both regal salons with split-level areas which mask any impression of mass feeding even though 1,000 are catered for at a time. There is also a bistro and a pizzeria on this largely Italian-crewed vessel. And if night starvation should still strike, room service is always available in the immaculately kept cabins, which

are cleaned twice a day. There is enough booze aboard keep a battleship afloat, though the purser says that many holidaymakers, especially Americans, spend the entire week afloat without spending a penny. For the more hedonistic, there are indoor and deckside bars as well as a late-night

After a day swinging around the eastern and southern coasts of Cuba, with the pinpricks of meagre communist electric lights visible from the liner relieved by the brilliant glare of the American military base of Guantanamo, we arrived at a rain-sodden Montego Bay in Jamaica.

In the sun, which must be almost guaranteed most of the time, the organised trips ashore would be tempting - visits to a plantation house or a climb up a spectacular waterfall. But the downpour pro-



■ The author was a guest of Princess Cruises.

■ The Tropical Mix cruise aboard the Sun Princess costs from £1,045 for nine nights. A saving of £250 can be made by booking at least 60 days in advance. Booking: 0171-800

Special offer to readers of The Times: Book a Sun Princess Caribbean Cruise between October 1996 and April 1997 through Thomas Cook Direct and save from £100 to £500 off the full brochure fare and get a cabin upgrade. For further details, and to book, telephone Thomas Cook Direct on 01733-335509, quoting reference CR01. Bookings must be made before April 30, 1996, to qualify.

Best time to travel: the coolest and driest months are December to April. May, June, October and November are wet, although tropical showers can occur year-round. Although hurricanes are

rare, if they do occur, it is

usually in September. ■ Cruise tips: most cruises are much more casual than they used to be, although there are usually one or two formal evenings to cater for when packing, which can involve more luggage than other package holidays. However, careful packing is needed because many cruises involve flights to an embarkation port and airlines limit passengers to one or two suitcases and one piece of hand

■ Take binoculars to enjoy the best views from the cruise liner when passing close to shore. It is also advisable to take high-factor sun creams and lotions because cooling sea breezes can be deceptive and the sea and ship decks reflect the sun back in your face.

Reading: Cruises (£7.95) and Caribbean Cruising (£7.99), both published by Thomas Cook.

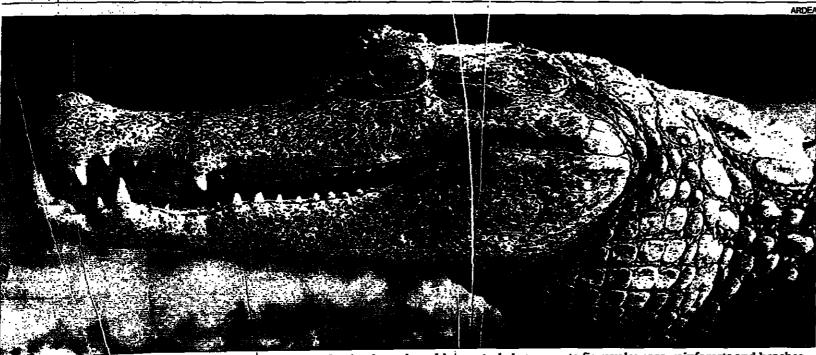
vided an opportunity to hire a car and driver to explore Jamaica's interior on what turned out to be Bob Marley Day — the birthday of the late Rasta idol. Jamaicans in every roadside shack selling beer and rum listened with hushed reverence as Bob's mum opined about her loner son and the sort of food he used to like. At least we returned to the ship drier than the tour parties who went waterfall

climbing in the rain. Day four brought Grand Cayisland that foul weather is probably forbidden under an old colonial bylaw. The sun finally appeared but the wind was still having none of

this holiday lark, and a highlight snorkelling trip to frolick with stingrays was abandoned after a few seconds' assessment of the heavy swell whipping up the sea over the coral reef.

The Sun Princess's passengers finally experienced something approaching tropical heat on the final stopover in Mexico before heading north for Florida again. Tolun and Cozumel lie at the heart of the Mayan Indian culture, which reached its height more than 1,000 years ago. The magic of its past is impregnated in the stones of its temples and villages.

EVE-ANN PRENTICE



Costa Rica is rich in natural beauty - from its birds and animals, such as this spectacled cayman, to fiery volcanoes, rainforests and beaches at the delightful Manati Lodge, where Lilia Ffigul's

Continued from page 16 crocodiles and caymen, green lizards and iguanas, river turtles and a remarkable variety of bird life.

The star turn was a sloth. hanging by his toes in a riverside bush and munching

nouchalantly on green leaves while we edged within touch-

Tortuguero, on the Carib-bean coast and accessible only by boat or plane, is an isolated settlement. Turtles nest on its

river shrimps in garlic loutter were mouthwatering. We saw umpteen colcourful toucans, the handsome and glossy, green-backed, repl-bellied trogon, fly-catchers and humming birds. Beautifully beaches in season. We stayed

> A pre-breakfast boat trip through the dense rainforest brought more wildlife sightings, including the turkey-sized great carassow, \a rare bird threatened with extinction. I drove a hire car for cour second week, not without trepi-

dation. But, potholes apairt,

hued butterflies fluttered ev-

driving was no hardship, even though temperatures often soared into the 90s.

We headed for the Nicoya peninsula on the Pacific coast. lounged at the small resort of Tamarindo and, again by moonlight, watched with incredulity as baby leatherback turtles, hatched from eggs buried 2ft down in in the sand. pushed their way to the surface and headed instinctively for the ocean.

At Nosara, the unoccupied beach was idyllic. We bathed in the warm ocean and watched flight after flight of pelicans soar overhead in orderly Vformation.

It was a long but worthwhile drive through fertile farmlands back to the mountains and Arenal, with its lake and nearby relaxing hot

Verdict: Costa Rica proved to be a great place for a holiday. But the developers are moving in. North Americans. in particular, are increasingly buying land and building retirement homes and condominiums. Tourism is now the country's top earner, well ahead of bananas and coffee. I suggest that you get there sooner rather than later.

JOHN GRANT

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from Page 23

HONDA (c) The eye at the end of a lasso through which the rope passes to form a loop. Western US from the Wild West and the Spanish honda a sling. "Honda is the loop plaited in the end of a rope to make a running noose. Also the metal

grommet or thimble inserted in that loop."

MORAN

(c) The warriot group of the Masai tribe which comprises the younger unmarried males, also Il-moran. The Masai designation. "Their hair is allowed to grow, and as soon as it has grown long enough to plait, they are called Il-moran

NARC

(b) A federal, state, or local narcotics agent, US slang. An abbrev. of narcotic. "Bo, a rookie detective, is so confused by the Department's manipulations that he doesn't guess that she is an undercover narc."

(a) A smooth-coated, prick-eared, Australian sheep-dog, which may be black, black-and-tan, blue, or red. First bred from imported Scottish collies about 1870. An eponym from an early specimen of the breed. "Lassie was, like all Kelpies, highly strung, with brains under her broad, thin-boned skull."



EXPEDITION THROUGH

20 JULY-5 AUGUST 1996

With Dr James J McCarthy, Malcolm McKenna, Robert Rockwell and Cynthia Wilder

Maps of the Canadian Arctic are filled with the name's of brave explorers who searched for the elusive waterway which would connect the Atlantic with the Pacific Frobisher, Davis, Hudson, Baffin, Parry and Franklin, Finally in 1906 Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen conquered the legendary waterway, threading his way east to west on a 3 year voyage aboard the 70ft sloop, Gjoa. To this day it is still a daunting journey and

THE VOYAGE-

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has only been razvigated successfully fewer

than 70 times."

whale or a polar bear.

Unlike those early explorers, we will endure no hardships on our expedition through the Northwest Passage. Thanks to the exceptional capabilities of the powerful Icebreaker 'Kapitan Dranitsyn', we plush our way through shifting ice and break pack-ice. We explore remote, newly opened lands of the Russian Arctic, cross the Bering Strait to the Beaufort Sea and enter the

Northwest Passage. An expertly piloted helicopter and a fleet of nimble Zodiac craft whisk us ashore at ancient sites and modern settlements. We visit with the native Inuit, search out musk ox, Arctic fox and seabird colonies, and scan the pristine waters and ice fines for the tell-tale white of a beluga

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Dranitsyn is far beyond what one would expect on such a vessel. All 54 passenger cabins and suites have private facilities, are well planned and comfortably furnished. The dining room serves delicious and hearty meals prepared by European chefs. There is a lounge, library, lecture theatre, sauna, gymnasium, heated indoor pool and a Russian and European crew and staff of over 60.

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Full details of this voyage and other Arctic journeys are available on request. Please telephone 0171-409 0376 (7 days week during office hours).

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HOW TO GET TO COSTA RICA AND LOCAL DETAILS

The author travelled with Sunvil Holidays (0181-568 4499) and flew from London to Costa Rica with Iberia International Airways (0171-830 0011), changing first at Madrid, and then Miami for San José

■ Other airlines flying to Costa Rica include KLM (0181-750) 9000) and American Airlines (0181-572 5555). Re turn fares from Heathrow start at about £953, but vary depending on the depar ture date chosen.

■ Sunvil Holidays offers a two-week, fly-drive package, includin g bed and breakfast (full board for out-of-town excursion days during first week), car hire and insurance for two people from

■ Other companies offering holidays to Costa Rica include Jules Venue Voyages

(0171-616 1000), Journey Latin, American

(0181-742 2320), Reef and Rair forest Tours

(01803 866965) and Explore Worldwide (01252 319448).

■ Weather: it rains most of the year on the Caribbean coast, mainly in the afternoons. Elsewhere, December to April is regarded as the dry season - but you should expect the unexpected.

Local currency: colones (around 285 to the pound). Dollars, dollar cheques and credit cards are all acceptable. No visa needed for Britis h passport

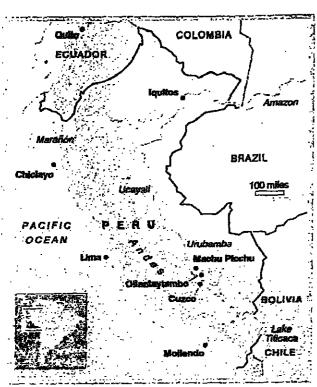
holders. Medical: jabs for typhoid, polio and hepatitis A, and malaria tablets are recommended but check with your GP.

Restaurants, mostly serving French-style food, and bars are to be found in most areas. Hotel prices are not cheap by the usual standards of a developing country. Petrol is cheap, about £1.30 a gaillon.

TRAVEL

Peru: on the trail of the Incas, master masons whose Lost City is perfectly preserved high in the mountains

Exploring the eighth wonder of the world

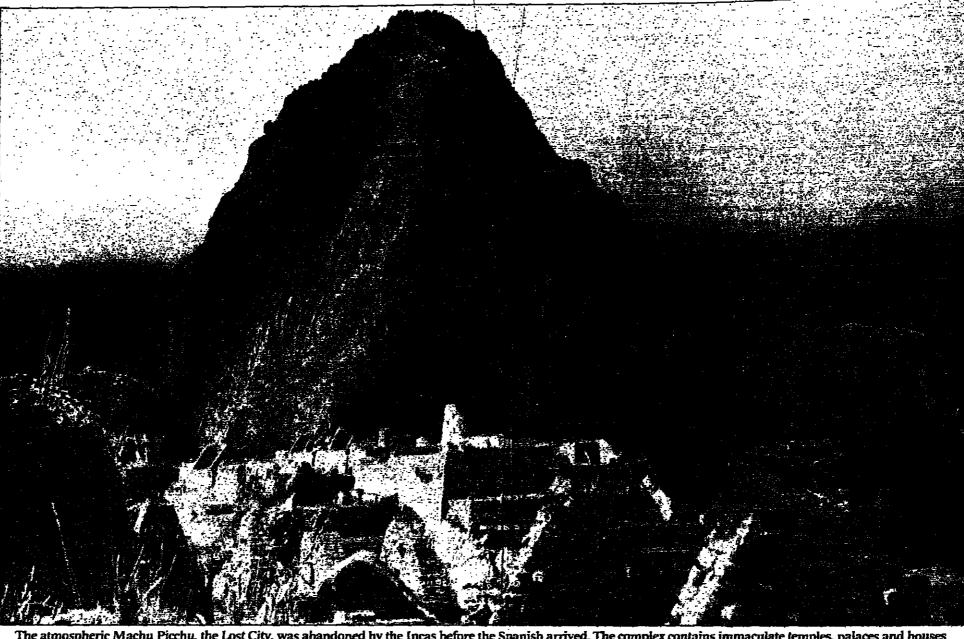


awe-inspiring peaks

From the Cuzco Valley, high in the Cordillera, the Incas ruled an empire stretching from what is now Colombia to central Chile. It was a complex, advanced society until Francisco Pizarro arrived in 1532 at the head of a Spanish army. Emperor Atahualpa, radiant in gold belitting his descent from the Sun, came to meet him in peace. Instead, he was seized by the Conquistadors and his execution marked the beginning of three centuries of domination by Spain.

Pizarro's perfidy is still spohen of as if it happened vesterday and there are visible tensions between the native Indians and those of Spanish descent. The slaughter of the indians was on a genocidal scale and their descendants

mains, displayed in a plain coffin in Lima Cathedral with a separate box for his head. The unfortunate man was assassinated by natives in 1541. The conquest took 30 years of bloody fighting. A rebellion failed in 1572 and the last rising was as late as 1780, not long before the 19th-century war of liberation from Spain. Cuzco city is an hour's flight from Lima. The Spanish destroyed the Inca capital but built their own churches and palaces on the same foundations. Thus a Dominican friary stands on the remains of the Temple of the Sun, and there are walls of Inca stonework, each massive block crafted to perfection, shoring up supermarkets and discos in side alleys. The Incas were master masons but never discovered either the wheel or writing, so there are no histori-



The atmospheric Machu Picchu, the Lost City, was abandoned by the Incas before the Spanish arrived. The complex contains immaculate temples, palaces and houses

cal records and much of their way of living remains a mystery. Outside Cuzeo, the valley is littered with more substantial Inca remains: temples. baths, aqueducts and the towering fortress at Ollant-

aytambo. The most dramatic site is Machu Picchu, the Lost City mythologised as the El Dorado of the Andes, It stands on a small plateau, surrounded by mountains swirling in cloud, and has been abandoned since before the Spanish came. No one knows why. As a result, Machu Picchu

was not destroyed by Pizarro and remained lost until archaeologist Hiram Bingham stumbled on it in 1911. Now it is Peru's premier attraction: a stunning complex of perfectly preserved temples, palaces and near houses. Their thatched roofs have gone, but otherwise the Incas might have moved out last year.

In the main temple, the altar is carved with a human outline, and there is a drain at its feet for sacrificial blood. Perhaps the offering had the right effect for the atmosphere is magically peaceful, particularly at sunrise: a place of deep stillness, broken only by the rush of the river below. For impact, it matches the Taj Mahal or the Pyramids. To get there involves a three-

hour journey from Cuzco by tourist train with an armed police guard (the government is still nervous about the remnants of the Shining Path guerrillas). At the end, a fourmile track zigzags up the mountainside — minibuses charge £1.30 for the journey, admission to the site is £6.60. An alternative approach is the slower local train to a

halfway point and then the Inca Trail through the mountains. But this is serious walking at high altitude, three days carrying your tent and lood. The Machu Picchu Ruinas Hotel is right by the site - and expensive at £115 a night for a

double. But there are plenty of

cheap places to stay at Aguas

Calientes, 2km back down the

railway, and there is a campsite by the station. Leaving aside the Inca legacy, life in the villages and countryside is

picturesque but painfully poor — often mud-brick shacks with no electricity, running water or sanitation. The grazing llama and alpaca have a melancholy look, but their owners, wrapped in traditional rainbow-coloured ponchos, are friendly. Their markets are a good place to buy an alpaca

blanket or sweater.
International flights mostly go to Lima, founded by Pizarro on the narrowest of coastal

'Life in the villages is picturesque but painfully poor mud shacks with no sanitation'

plains as a port for the new province. It is home to about paid jobs: there are miles of shantytowns and incessant street peddling. The older parts are beautiful and very Spanish, with laid-back bars, pavement calés and a vibrant night life. The Pacific breaks on paim-shaded beaches.

The past is preserved in the Museo de Antropología y Arquelogía and other national museums, often with free admission. The building occupied by the Spanish Inquis-ition from 1570 to 1820 is also on display, with gruesome waxworks of heretics being racked and roasted. Three centuries of Catholicism are

visible in churches on every corrier, a vast Franciscan monastery and the austere cathedral on Piaza de Armas.

If you have time for only one museum. Enrico Pon is vour man. Mr Poli arrived from Ital; 47 years ago and has never returned. His private collection includes artefacts dating as far back as 300 BC magnificent gold from the inca period and later religious art.

his some at Lord Cochrane 466 in the suburb of Miraliores. Admission is by appointment (phone 4222437) and for £6.50 he snows you round personally.

Eating out is inexpensive and can be excellent properly Spanish with some spicy local dishes Dinner with wine at a local restaurant in the Cuzco valley costs £4 a head, while eating under the stars at La Ermita in Lima's Barranco equals the best of Mediterranean seafood and atmosphere. for about £12.

Peru is not for the faint-hearted. Transport can be head-bangingly unreliable. and their on the streets is rife in Lima, as is drug-pushing. But you can minimise problems by carrying your money in a body-belt and keeping on the beaten track.

Some, not always young, travellers backpack and see the country cheaply using buses. Hadlage trucks also pick up passengers for a few Sols. A double room for a night in a pension costs about £4.50. For more comfort and predictability, it is best to arrange a package, covering flight, accommodation and internal travel through a specialist operator such as Journey Latin America or Kuoni.

MICHAEL HARTLAND



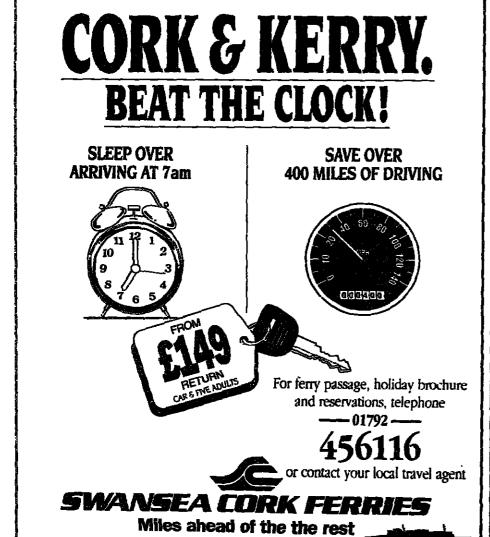
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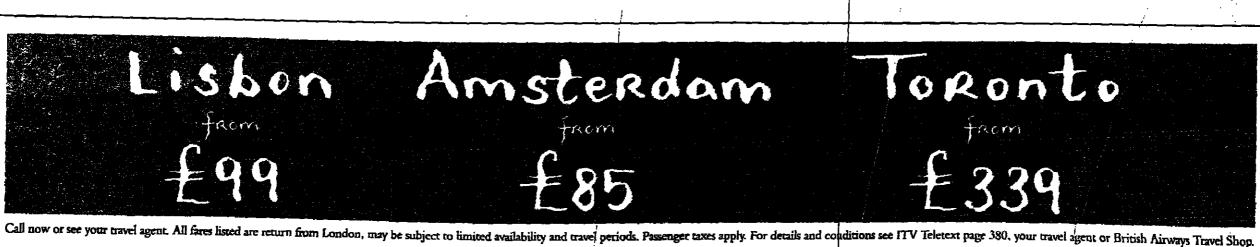
Young boys celebrate a religious festival in Cuzco

FACT FILE ON PERU

- The author was a guest of KLM and Journey Latin America.
- Flight only: KLM flies from Heathrow and I3 regional airports, via Amsterdam, to Lima. Booked through Journey Latin America from £545 (June-September £655) 0181-747 3108.
- Packages: Journey Latin America, 14-15 Devonshire Road, London W4 2HD (0/81-747 8315), 12 days including flights from £1.542. Kuoni Travel. Dorking, Surrey RH5 4AZ (0/1306 740888), 15 days including flights from £1,976. Bales Tours, Junction Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3HB (0/1306 885991), 16 days including flights from £2,399.
- As Peru is just south of the Equator, the only significant climatic difference is between the wet and dry seasons. The dry season (May to September) is ohviously best for walking or trekking in the Andes.
- Useful reading: the Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit for
- Peru, price £8.95. ■ Health: vaccination for typhoid and, in some areas, malarta protection — consult your GP.







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Soaring buzz of first-time gliding

sky above Lasham and thunder rumbles around the airfield. We are grounded in the lecture room as Clive Thomas, a flying instructor, explains basic meteorology and the principles of rising air, the invisible force that holds gliders aloft.

It is a morning for consider-ing theory rather than flying. Who would want to be launched skywards on half a mile of steel wire in a thunderstorm? "The best lightning conductor in Hampshire," Mr Thomas says.

Other dangers threaten. Those black-based cumulus clouds overshadowing the airfield are citadels of violence. five miles high, perhaps, and filled with ice-laden, hurricane-force winds able to suck an aircraft into their centre and destroy it.

There is a story about a German pilot who entered one of these grim fortesses in the hope of setting a new altitude record. When his glider started to disintegrate, he baled out, opened his parachute and overtook the remains of his aircraft — going up.

So much for high ambition.

There are old pilots and bold pilots, the saying goes, but no

old, hold pilots.
On the airfield the gliders are tied down against the wind as pilots search the sky for the clues that will tell them the weather front is clearing. In that ability lies the essence of the sport: spotting those often subtle meteorological clues and accurately reading the sky. The fastest readers develop the quickest instinct and

make the best pilots. 💉 'I know of no other sport that has such a conjunction of man and nature, where the glider becomes an extension of you and you become an extension of the air around you. It is silent and graceful and, when things go right, a sublime buzz," one pilot replies when I ask him why he is so enthusiastic about being jerked into the air without an engine.

Gliding is the most wellestablished of the aerial wind sports, which have sub-divided into paragliding, hanggliding, parascending, sky-diving and parachuting. However slender the aircraft may look, in the air they are immensely strong.

By the afternoon the weather front has moved away and the sun breaks through. The ground starts to heat up and generate bubbles of warm air which rise in thermals and condense into dumpy, cottonwool clouds.

We strap ourselves into the narrow cockpit of the K13 trainer, check the controls as the tow cable is hooked to the keel. The distant winch takes up the tension and then hauls us steeply into the air. We climb faster than the Space Shuttle, according to Mr Thomas. At 1,400ft we arrive directly above the winch and the nose starts to dip. I release the cable and the glider settles on the wind, the only sound being the rush of air over the 50ft span of wings.

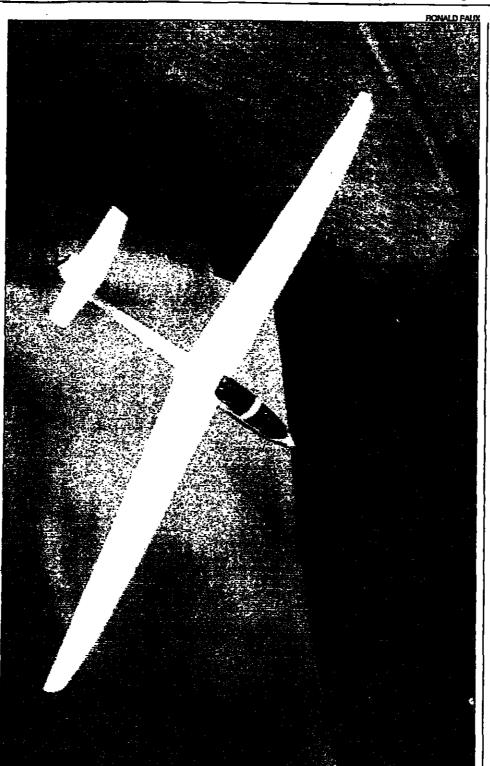
head, a cloud with a base the colour of a bruise looks promising. Another glider is already circling beneath it. We approach and feel the patch of rough air that is the precursor of a healthy thermal and seconds later the left wingtip is iolted upwards.

"Go now," Mr Thomas says, and I thrust the glider into a steep left bank, trying to coordinate feet and hands so that the turn is smooth and we do not skid out of the thermal, an invisible cone of lift which is drifting with the wind. We are trying to track the narrow lower core so the horizon is spinning wildly. The instruments indicate that we are

climbing 700ft a minute. The wider reaches of the thermal require tlatter turns and at 3,200ft mist spatters the canopy, signalling that we have reached the point where our thermal is condensing into cloud. The first glider has already headed away in search of more rising air and beneath us another slim pair of wings have begun to climb the same winding escalator

Thermals are only one of the "engines" a glider may use.

that we have taken.



Another glider starts to climb the thermal escalator that the writer has just taken

They can cruise for hours in the ridge lift created when wind accelerates up the face of a cliff or, more spectacularly, climb into the stratosphere using the air currents that cannon in waves from mountain ranges. The world record altitude reached in a glider is more than 46,000ft.

The basic course at Lasham avoids such lofty heights. There are three of us students in Mr Thomas's care and the next will be waiting to fly. Nose down and tail up we are soon in the circuit 800ft above the airtield.

Even the basic training glid-ers are so aerodynamic they will lose only one foot of height for every 40ft of forward flight. High performance gliders, the albatrosses of the sport, stretch this glide angle to

60ft for the loss of only one The author was a guest of Lasham Gliding Society, Lasham Aerodrome, Alton, Hampshire vertical foot. "Some days you get the GU34 5SS (01256 381322/381270) Courses run from April to end of September. Tuition from £135

for two days.

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Association, Kimberley House,

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impression they just don't want to come down." Mr Thomas says. To neutralise this inclination to float for ever more, I pull on the air brakes and couple of small steeplechase hurdles spring from the wings. There is a roar as the smooth airflow is broken and the glider stops floating and starts falling.

We turn steeply into wind and ahead the landing area is clear. Just as well: we are now in the grip of Newton's law without an option.

The glider's skid drops gent-ly into the grass and we slide smoothly to a halt. The lesson

RONALD FAUX

Literary double act on fictional facts

f you're the kind of person who spends more time deciding which books to take on holiday rather than which clothes, Bloom Reading Holidays will sound like bliss: a week in a rural retreat with nothing to do but read books. talk books, eat and drink, and enjoy the countryside. A reading list around which discussions will be based is provided, so you needn't even worry which books to take.

We gathered on a Monday night at Ty Newydd (the New House) in the small village of Llanystumdwy, near Cric-cieth, northwest Wales. Ty Newydd was the last home of David Lloyd George, whose grave is beside the tree-lined lane that leads from the house to the village. His resting place, marked by a large and simple lichen-covered stone, looks over the Dwyfor river.

Ty Newydd today is more usually filled with writing courses, though it was emphasised from the start that we were on a holiday, not a course. Over supper we met the week's two writers: Beryl Bainbridge and Bernice Rubens. They have taught at writing courses together so often that they form a regular double act, a kind of literary Morecambe and Wise.

After supper they were keen to discover who we were and what had brought us there. Anne was an academic, prone to skim-reading to get at the facts; she wanted to learn to read fiction more slowly. Sue and Jean were regular visitors to the Dartington Literature Festival in Devon, and liked the idea of lengthier contact with two of their favourite authors, while Carole, a psychologist, said she wanted more direction in her reading; the course, she said, sounded like fun.

Fun it was, with Rubens revealing that she likes Mills and Boon, and wondering why there was no porn on the recommended reading list. "Pornography is interesting. I found a copy of The Well of Loneliness under my mother's mattress, so naturally I read it at once. If it's under a mattress

provoking comments: "I don't their first book. I think writing is the only thing which prac-tice doesn't make perfect."

As the discussion shifted to Wuthering Heights and the smouldering Heathcliff, Carole brought her psychologist's experience to bear and insisted: "Wuthering Heights has a lot to answer for. It does not lead to good relationships."
Bainbridge wondered if



Bainbridge: a Street fan

there was such a thing as a

good relationship. The double act, sensitive writers both, shared a passion for Coronation Street. "Has anyone seen tonight's episode? Did Jack and Vera get the pub?" they wanted to know.
"I don't believe I'm hearing

this." Carole said. Morning sessions began at ten o'clock, after a DIY breakfast in the kitchen. We each introduced our favourite books, and it was a delight for me to meet again titles I'd read before, such as Toni Morrison's Beloved and Marquez's One Hundred Years of Solitude. A re-read list built up in my notebook.

Afternoons were free, and evenings began with pre-dinner drinks and ended wherever the book talk took us, from Holocaust literature to the merits of Jeffrey Archer.

One night we played charades, limited to book titles and with a ban on "sounds

tling for a cab and stepping into it for Lincle Tom's Cabin. Sessions were held in Ty Newydd's library, which looks out over lawn and cow pastures down to the sea, a ten-

minute walk away. To the left lay the cliffs beyond Criccieth. and one afternoon i walked along the beach to where a colony of cormorants and a solitary heron stood in the breaking waves.
As I walked I was mentally

composing the list of Top Ten books we had all been asked to present to the group. I was astonished that writers I considered comparatively lightweight, such as Margaret Drabble and Susan Hill, appeared in some people's lists of all-time greats, while other lists reminded me to re-read Thomas Hardy and to read Brian Keenan's An Evil Crudling.

t the start of the week I A had two thoughts: first, that it would be a relaxing break of book talk, and second, that at the end of it I could put aside the reading list and get back to my own choices. The first thought proved rrue, but the second was hopelessly optimistic.

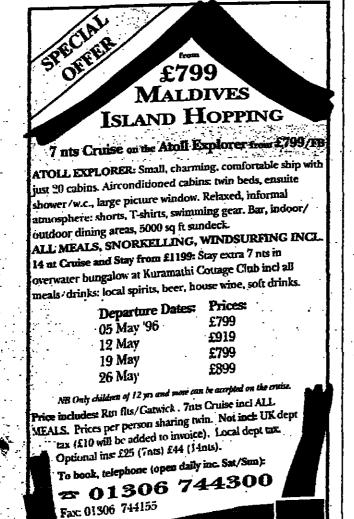
I returned home with a love of reading renewed, and a list as long as a Booker judge's: Beloved, Lie Down in Darkness, Crossing the River, Herzog, Return of the Native, What's Bred in the Bone. Wuthering Heights ... And a realisation that I now needed a Reading Year, not just a Reading Week.

MIKE GERRARD The author was a guest of

Bloom Reading Holidays. Courses in 1996 include Stan Barstow and Diana Griffiths at Ty Newydd (May 27-June 2) Scotland, Carol Clewlow and Jim Friel July 29-Aug 4), Barbara Trapido and lain Crichton Smith (Aug 5-11), and Lesley Glaister and Mark Illis (Oc: 21-27) The cost is £325 full board • Details from Bloom

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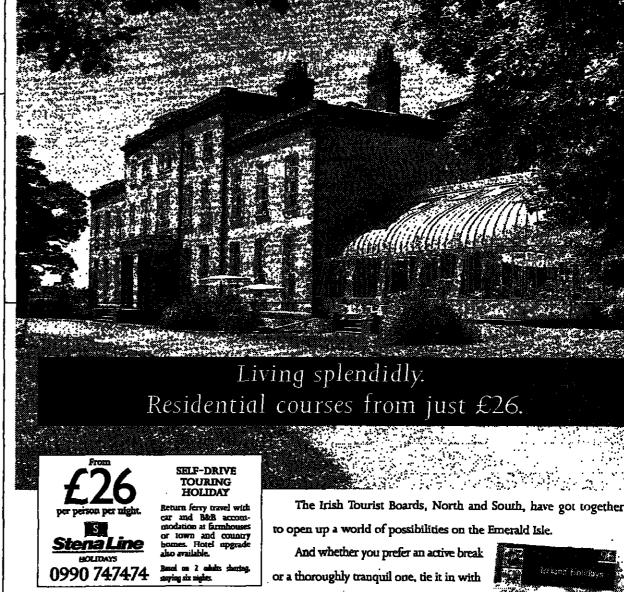
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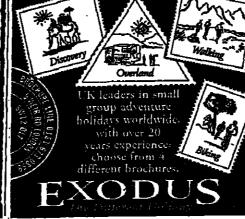
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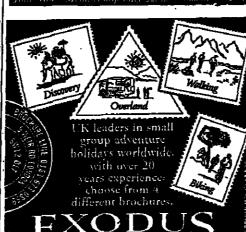
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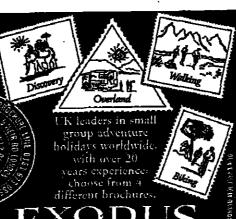
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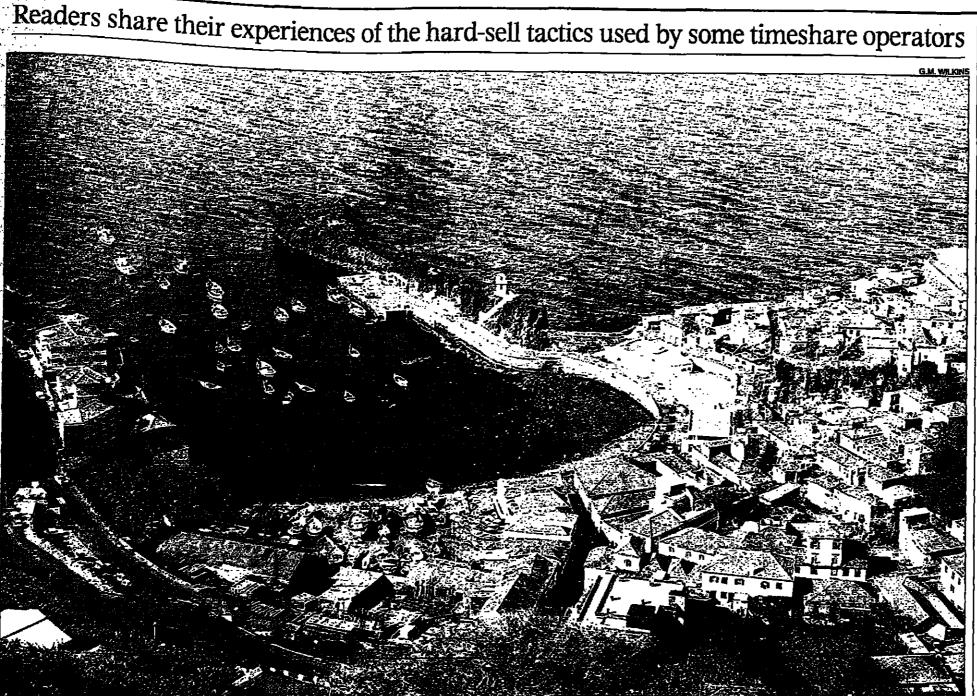
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Madeira, the island where Jack Henfrey and his wife were impressed by a salesman's presentation of a new timeshare complex and put down a £500 deposit. A decision they were to regret

Beware the timeshare trap

Calne, Wiltshire, rephone survey on holidays two months ago. A few days later he was phoned again by a man representing an advertising agency and told he had won a seven-day, luxury holiday for two in the Canaries, the Balearic islands or Portugal. The holiday was his on condition that he and a partner attended a two-hour timeshare promotion in Exeter.

"Confident of our ability to withstand the blandishments of a timeshare salesperson, my partner and I decided to risk the trip," Mr Dodd writes.

On a Saturday later that month, Mr and Mrs Dodd presented themselves at offices in Exeter. They were shown details of developments in the Canaries (the only holiday location offered to them) and informed about timeshare properties. The saleswoman then told them that "if we wanted to go ahead with the purchase, we had to sign up and pay the deposit before we left. After that the offer is gone,' she said. There is no second chance . . . You can't go away and think about it, you have to make a decision now." Mr Dodd decided to leave without making a pur-

chase. He has been offered a also exist in France, Portugal holiday but it will not be free. The saleswoman must have meant that the price was a one-off offer," says Diana Hanks, consumer services manager of The Timeshare

Council (TTC), the official UK body for the timeshare industry. If Mr Dodds had agreed to a purchase at the presentation. he could still have gone away and thought about it. "According to the Timeshare Act, 1992, there is a mandatory coolingoff period of 14 days, during which the purchaser may withdraw from the agreement," Mis Hanks says.

Similar cooling-off periods

the United Kingdom.

IF YOU are considering buying a timeshare. The Timeshare Council suggests that you follow these

Do your research: be sure you know what kind

of timeshare you want and how much you can

Assess your commitment: sign the agreement only when you are sure it is what you really want.

Some countries, such as Britain, give you a legal right to a cooling-off period. Find out what rights

you have if you are not signing the agreement in

Read the print: make sure that any promises

made to you are clearly shown in the printed

agreement. This particularly applies to promises to

and the United States, and are under discussion in the Canary Islands. The rest of Europe will be covered by the European Timeshare Directive, scheduled for April 1997, which calls for a cooling-off period of ten days and for measures to prevent the sellers receiving any advance payments in this time. Until this is implemented,

however, some timeshare companies are trying to take advantage of grey areas within the law. Madeira, for example, has provided some tricky cases where although the potential buyer has withdrawn within 14 days, the timeshare company has returned only part of the deposit and withheld the remainder to cover administration costs.

Jack Henfrey and his wife, who live in Cambridge, were on holiday in Madeira last May. They were impressed by a salesman's presentation of a new village timeshare complex near Funchal and put down a £500 deposit. Although the salesman had insisted the money had to be

paid that day, the couple had been reassured by his explanation that, "we had nothing to lose, for we had a fortnight's cooling-off period, during

■ Get full details of your timeshare, showing your legal ownership rights and obligations, details of your management fees and the arrangements for an elected owners' committee. All TTC members must operate within the council's code of conduct; this includes ensuring that buyers have secure occupancy rights and that satisfactory arrangements are in force to protect their money before completion of the property.

sell your existing timeshare if you buy a new one.

TTC provides an advisory and conciliation service free to those dealing with its members. For ■ Credit cards: remember, you cannot stop a credit-card payment. The bank is legally bound to honour your signed transfer slip. a free booklet, send an sae to The Timeshare Council, 23 Buckingham Gale, London SWIE 6HB (0171-821 8845, fax 0171-828 0739).

The Department of Trade and Industry booklet on timeshare, Your Place in the Sun, is free from

which time we could pull out and all monies paid would be money.
Although resorts in Madeirefunded".

able.

ra should come under Portu-

guese law, some claim to have

chosen a separate Isle of Man

jurisdiction. which allows

them to retain a part of the deposit. Ms Hanks says that

regulations should be in place

at the end of July that will

make it clear whether all or

part of the deposit is refund-

buvers

Meanwhile,

hand over any money.

should make sure that this point is explained before they

More than three million

households own timeshares at

more than 4,000 resorts

around the world, and most

are apparently satisfied with

their timeshare holidays.

Many say that they would buy

again, so these examples of

determined salesmanship

appear to be the experience of the few.

Some days later, the Henfreys paid a second deposit of £545, which wasn't due until September 1995.

"During the following days, we naturally had some queries, but then found it was never possible to meet the salesman to discuss them," Mr Henfrey says.

When the couple received a note to confirm details for a proposed visit in January 1996: The figures bore no resemblance to the stories of cheap flights and accommodation open to members of the timeshare. My wife and I decided that we should pull out without delay."

They waited four hours for a meeting with the salesman. We were bullied and told that we were out of the cooling-off period, that the salesman had confirmed this with the company lawyer and that the company that owned the timeshare group and many hotels in Madeira and Portugal were immensely wealthy and powerful."

After an exchange of solicitors' letters, the company acknowledges that the Henfreys were within the cooling-off period, but it is still

Paris chic? Watch the French loaf

A new weekly column on the pleasures available just a rail journey away

Eurostar back from the Gare du Nord to Waterloo and you will hear British couples triumphantly relating the intel-lectual ground covered in Paris — the Corot exhibition. the Louvre, the Opera Bastille... they might as well have a big C for culture sewn on their coats. The once relaxing weekend abroad has

ment of enrichment I know this because we secretly give our guests in Paris a culture count when they appropriate our sofa-bed

become a terrifying instru-

Bac. The highest rating so far was earned by two academic types who, in the space of 48 hours, saw a one-woman show inspired by the works of Simone de Beauvoir, the Musée d'Orsay, the Jeu de Pomme, a matinée of the latest Peter Brookplay and a three-hour

film in Serbo-Croat. They also deposited a cheap house-plant on the grave of the Russian writer Zamyatin and had dinner in one of the oldest bistros by the

Bastille. For this, they scored the full ten points. Imagine then the delight at discovering what Parisians really do in London: "I recenttook a return trip on the Eurostar," says a reader in the hip magazine Nova. "I spent the day in bed there with a

vision and eating pizzas." visitors to Paris should re-main in their hotels ordering lounging around.

Much lounging inspiration has come from Britain, partichave raised Le Lounging to the height of chic.

Lounging is the lazy version of cafe society: it must be done in public with good friends and as little mental effort as possible. Conversation must be relaxed. Over-enthusiastic debates are frowned on.

Le Lounge Club is the finest example of the genre in Paris. The long smoking-room-cumlounge is painted midnight blue, with enormous leather Chesterfields and armchairs on a wooden floor. Its murky interior suits those conducting illicit affairs because you

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO

KATE MUIR

friend watching British tele-

This kind of passive resistance, this valuing of consummation over cultural consumption, can only be admired. Why should there be an imperative to achieve while on holiday? I am not necessarily suggesting that from room service - this is only possible in the very early stages of a relationship - but there is a lot to be said for

ularly the Living Room in Soho, where Londoners drape across sofas to a background of easy listening music. Simi-lar establishments have opened in Paris - Le Lounge Club du Zebra Square and Le JEANNIE MCNEILL | Café de la Musique - and

further than the bottom of Le Long Drink. Cocktails are much favoured and there is often a pianist, or CDs of Frank Sinatra. Paul Anka, Nat

King Cole and cheesy Europop from the Fifties. The owner, Patrick Derderian, says he wanted to create "une ambiance musicale très crooner". The fashion-

able habit of lounging has also meant a renaissance for the glorious bar of the Hotel Lutetia on the Left Bank. The womb-like room is panelled with mahogany in the style of a grand ocean liner, with an art deco painting of the Lutétia cruise ship. The margueritas, kirs and martinis are correctly executed and the chairs comfortable. The hotel is a time warp: it harboured the Gestapo in the war, was liberated by the Americans (among them Hemingway), and then housed refugees. Now it is lounge central. The Lutétia is in strolling distance of the Bon Marché department store and Prada on the Rue de Grenelle for those who wish

to slob and shop. It is uplifting to realise that Parisians recently learnt the art of slebbing around from Britain, just as the British learn about culture from France. This is one of the few successful exchange mechanisms in the European Community so far.

 Lounge Club du Zebra Square, I Rue de Boulainvilliers. Ioth (open Thurs, Fri and Sat evenings). Le Café de la Musique. 213 Avenue Jean-Jaurès, 19th. Lutétia Hotel Bar, Rue de Sevresat Babylone, 6th.



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A world of entertainment on offer HARD GRAFT USA

THE US Travel and Tourism Association (USTTA) ceased to exist in this country on April 12. Instead, a new Visit USA Brochure Line (0891 600530, 49p a minute during peak time, 39p at other times) provides a brochure and

recorded information service. Using the number, it took me II minutes, at a cost of £4.29, to order a comprehensive fact-file and to write down at breakneck speed the UK phone numbers of the 28 American regions, from Arizona to Washington, offering either a brochure service or specific information lines.

PAY TO DRIVE

AUSTRIA is joining its Swiss neighbours by introducing motorway tolls from next year. Tourists wishing to use motorways and some Alpine passes will need to buy and display a "Kombi" ticket, valid for two months and costing Asch350, approximately £23.

FOR NIGHT BIRDIES

THE ULTIMATE for fanatics - long daylight hours and the midnight sun in June mean that round the clock golf is possible in Iceland. The Arctic Open Golf Tournament in Akureyri (June 26-29) actually starts at 8pm each evening.

Icelandair (0171-388 5599) offer threenight packages with hotel B&B accommodation and flights from £375, plus \$300 (£155) to enter the Open, with unlimited golf and a gala dinner.

KEEP MOVING IN CORSICA CORSICA specialists Voyages Ilena (0171-924 4440) are offering their June self-catering holidaymakers the chance to spend each night of their stay in a hotel in a different part of the island. A week costs from E362 for each member of a group of four, which also includes flights and car hire.

Jill Crawshaw on Himalayan cycling tours and other holiday news and bargains

CUT-PRICE LONG-HAUL HOLIDAYS to Kenya, Goa. Sri Lanka and the Caribbean will cost less than

many similar packages to the Canary Islands, Cyprus and even the Spanish Costas next winter. Thomson Holidays (0171-707 9000) is offering two weeks B&B in Goa from £439, Sri Lanka from £495 and two weeks' on Kenya's coast from £509 (£439 in May).
In the Caribbean, if you are pre-

pared to self-cater, you can spend two weeks in Antigua for £499, in Jamaica for £525 or Barbados for £569. Allinclusive holidays in the Dominican Republic start at £525 for 14 days.

MISSISSIPPI MANSIONS

ANTIQUE dining tables, the best china and silver, plus traditional southern breakfast with mine host are promised at some of the 120 pre-Civil War plantation homes and Victorian mansions listed in the new Mississippi Bed & Breakfast Guide from the Mississippi Information Line (01462 440787). Many of the properties are listed buildings.

WORKING IN OZ

IT'S NOT OVER

GOOD news for people under 27 wanting to work in Australia on holiday and recently refused working visas when the quota ran out; an extra 9,000 visas have been allocated until July I, when the new increased annual quota of 42,000 comes into effect. Australian High Commission, 0171-379 4334.

ADDICTS take heart - there should

still be plenty of snow for a skiing

holiday on the Stubai Glacier in

Pavarotti sings in the Caribbean

Austria for the Spring Bank Holiday, though conditions could get mushy in the afternoons. Alpine Tours (01227) 454777) offer a week's B&B in Mieders from May 25, travelling by coach, and including lift pass and insurance.

GRAND PRIX.

FOLLOW Damon Hill's (hopefully) triumphant progress towards the Grand Prix title with Motor Racing International (01304 612424), who cover all the events of the season. For the European Grand Prix at Nürburgring on April 28, a coach-tour quickie (out Saturday, back Monday morning) costs 669, plus 665-6250 for tickets to the race. Three rather more comfort-

CHARLES WALLS, THE TRAIN PROPERTY. THE CHARLES CONTROL OF THE CONT

able nights with B&B at a hotel in Koblenz and travelling by air, costs E369 plus tickets.

BIKE PIONEERS KE ADVENTURE Travel (017687

73966) have permission from the Chinese Government for the first group to cross the Himalayas by mountain bike, starting in Pakistan, and travelling through Tibet down to Nepal, via the Kailas Mountain, one of the holiest mountains for Hindus and Buddhists. Holidaymakers need to be fit, though there's a support vehicle. The tour lasts from September 7 until October 6. The fully inclusive price is

EARLY BOOKING

CARIBBEAN Connection (01244 341131) have tickets to the Barbados Opera Festival for Easter next year. with prices from £1,979 for seven nights with half-board at Tamarind Cove, including flights and tickets. Pavarotti sings on Easter Sunday (March 29) beneath the stars in the gardens of Holders Hill, a 17th-century ormer plantation house.

SPECIALIST BARGAINS

PLENTY of holiday bargains are currently available - even from small and specialist companies. Until July, Far East specialists, Premier Holidays (01223 516677) have cut the price of a seven-night half-board holiday to Sri Lanka to £495.

Citalia (0181-686 5533) offers selfcatering apartments in Umbria until early May, reduced from £133 to £99. while Cadogan Holidays (01703 332661) have a reduction of £50 per person on holidays in Gibraltar. A seven-night stay until May 22 now costs £296, or £443 for a fortnight, with other reductions until the end of June.

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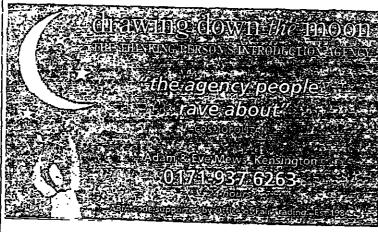
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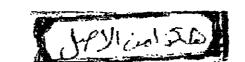
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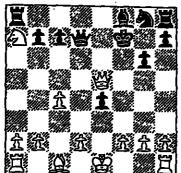
GAMES in simultaneous displays, where a champion takes on several opponents at once, often elude the thess theoreticians. However, con-cealed in these less formal competitions there are often gems which may have an important bearing on the proper assessments of critical variations. A case in point was this win of Kasparov's, in the ultrasharp Schliemann variation of the Ruy Lopez

White Garry Kasparov Black: Jean Croset Simultaneous Display Geneva, 1995 Ruy Lopez

2 N/3

The characteristic move of the Schliemann. Black plays a kind of King's Gambit with reversed colours. Black players who espouse this line are prepared to give up material in exchange for the

dxe4 Qd6 Noo5 Noce Qd5 Noce7+ Bd7 11

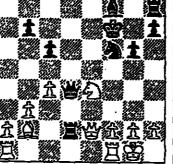


This is still theory. The alternative for White now — 13 Oxh8 Nf6 14 Nb5 c6 15 Nc3 Re8 16 b3 Bc5 17 Oxe8+ Kxe8 I8 h3 Qd3 - gives Black plenty of counterplay.

14 Qd4 15 Nc3 16 0-0 Rd3 18 Qe2

An important improvement on known theory. The correspondence game from 1978 between Petrushka and Wittman saw 19 Rel Bd6 20 g3 Re8 21 Oxd3 exd3 22 Rxe5 Bxe5 when Black's cramping pawn on d3 gives him more than enough positional equivalent for his sacrificed pawns.

19 . . . Qd4 20 Bb2!! This looks like suicide but Kasparov has seen an amazing sequence of tactics. 20 . . . Rxd2 21 Nxe4



The terrible point is revealed. If now 21 . . . Rxe2 22 Ng5+ followed by Bxd4 while if 21 . . . Nxe4 22 Qf3+ wins out of hand.

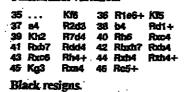
21 . . . Rxh2 22 NgS+. This cunning zwischenzug, or in-be-tween move, sets the seal on

White's advantage. 22 . . . Kg8. If instead 22 . . . Kg7 23 Ne6+ Kf7 24 Nxd4 Rxe2 25 Nxe2

and White wins on material. 23 Qe6+ Kg7 24 Qf7+ Kh6 25 Net. The point of the combination Kasparov launched on his 20th move. After manifold complica-tions, White wins back his piece, leaves the black king exposed and comes out two pawns ahead.

25 ... Qe5 26 Ree1 Qf5 27 Nbd8 Ng4 28 Qxd5 gxd5 29 Nd7 Rd6 30 Re6+ Kg7 31 Re7+ Kg6 32 h3 Rd2 33 hxg4 R8xd7 34 gxd5+ Kxd5 hxg4 Rfe1

For Kasparov the remainder is a pure formality. This game will give pause for thought to the numerous devotees of the double-edged Schliemann variation.

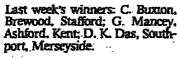


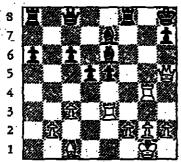
By Raymond Keene This position is from the game Alekhine - Borochov, Hollywood : Ashford, Kent; D. K. Das, South-

knight to open up lines on the kingside. What was his key 7 winning move? White to play.

Send your answers on a postcard to The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday...

Last week's solution: I ... Qg2+





abcdefgh

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right). The cartoon. from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Cartoon caption (104) Weekend Games Page. The Times, 1 Pennington Street. London El 9XN

The editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, April 17.



PUNCHLINE



After that last cruise, I've brought my own plumber with me on this one

lowed.

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted

WORD-WATCHING By Philip Howard

HONDA a. A boss

 b. National shame c. An eye

MORAN a. Young warriors b. The blueberry

c. Young warriors NARC

a. A police informer b. A narcotics agent c. Actors' talcum powder

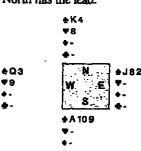
KELPIE

a. A sheep-dog b. A collector of seawerd c. A house-cleaning pixy

BRIDGE

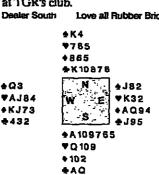
by Robert Sheehan

THE "Devil's Coup" involves this layout. Spades are trumps and North has the lead.



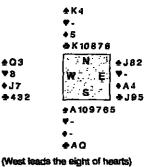
Although you might think the defence should make a spade trick, study the effect of leading the eight of hearts. If East ruffs small South overruffs and makes the ace and king of spades; if East ruffs high South overruffs and finesses against West's queen. It is a position much loved by problem-setters, but I had never seen it in practical play until a few weeks ago, when a debased form occurred at TGR's club.

Love all Rubber Bridge Dealer South



Contract: Two Spades by South Lead: three of diamonds

and rebid Two Spades over my partner's INT response. East won the diamond lead with the ace and switched to hearts. West took the jack and ace and continued with a third heart. East then returned the four of diamonds to West's king. Now West decided it was necessary to play a fourth round of hearts, in case his partner had J10 alone of spades. That left this position:



East mistakenly ruffed the heart with the jack of spades, a sort of "suicide Devil's Coup". He should have discarded — the only time ruffing can gain is if South started with AQXXX of spades; with that hand he would have passed INT.

After overruffing I could now have picked up the whole of the spade suit by running the ten through West.
Foolishly crediting East with more sense, I decided the only

genuine way to make the contract was to play East for an initial holding of QJ doubleton of spades. So I played off the king of spades and went one down in a more exciting way than had looked possible when I first saw the

by H. G. Gough, of Weobley, Hereford & Worcester Answers on page 17 As South, I opened One Spade COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

IF YOU live on London's Isle of Dogs, the following may come as a surprise: look at the picture, you will now find you live south of the river. Who did this to you? Good old Microsoft.

Bill Gates's company has one of the most respected multimedia catalogues in the business; it should have, since it is so rich it can snap up any title which takes its fancy. Microsoft did this with AutoRoute Express, an expert British atlas and route-mapping programme which was originally released by NextBase.

In Microsoft's hands the title received a zippy makeover -pictures and sound effects were added — and in the process the good people of the Isle of Dogs were swept southwards. Instead of bor-dering Millwall they are now neighbours of Greenwich. Perhaps the error has foxed a few sales representatives already, who swept into London to attend Docklands seminars but found themselves lost and perplexed, incredulously staring at their laptops.

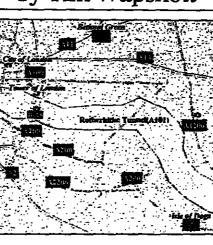
Getting a single destination wrong in a premium-priced hightech atlas seems one mistake too many. Why plan a journey on one programme if you need another to check its existence?

Several people have spotted the mistake and phoned Microsoft to point out where they are straying; apologies from the company and promises of the next corrected update as a replacement fol-

Cyberspace Twenty-Three explores further the world of great software clangers, typos and howlers. Have you ever come across any software mistakes which have amused you or, worse, made your blood boil? To enter the competition, write to us with details of a goof or mistake that you have spotted in any game or multimedia title, which you should name clearly. Alternatively, send us your

The competition is open to all ages, and the three funniest entries will scoop US Gold software bundles, which include the games ter, Tech War, Comanche vs zookatone, plus the history of flight reference on CD-Rom, Dreams of Flight. Send your entries, together

by Tim Wapshott



then, and motorists can currently rely on constantly updated electronic trackers. Some gadgets even show your exact location through satel-lite links. Up against this kind of backdrop, the Automobile Association's release of (A) to (B) seems slow off the mark.

The humble title, out on Windows floppy disk, deduces recommended routes with written instructions. There is no atlas option to let you check a suggested route on the map, as you can do in AutoRoute Express, but it does have a better facility to help to work out your travelling expenses.

The Isle of Dogs doesn't feature as a destination in (A) to (B), nor does it feature on another AA CD-Rom, The Hotel & Restaurant Guide. Although this title lists 4,000 hotels and 1,500 restaurants taken from two current AA guides, it is eclectic, incomplete, and far less satisfying than just thumbing through the books. The programme has a formal yet unclear menu interface, and some entries don't even go the distance and show their exact location on

road have never appealed, how about hitting ever-decreasing circles? From Thames & Hudson and due out next month. Escher Interactive will draw you into the intringing art of the Dutch gurn intriguing art of the Dutch guru.
Maurits Cornelis Escher hit the big time in 1951 and, until 1969, was responsible for an endless stream of captivating pictures, most typi-cally toying with infinity and architectural impossibility.

Thought-provoking, thoroughly absorbing and intelligently crafted, this is the definitive Escher exploration. A date line allows access to all aspects of the alarmingly modest graphic-artist genius. Video footage and succinct commentary combine to relate the story of Escher's life, and the gallery of his work is so extensive that it speaks for itself. Six pictures can be animated, and perspective is tackled with a rare

clarity. You can make your own Escheresque pictures, as well as experiment with simple morphing. The two visual riddle games, Concave & Convex and Impossible Puzzles,

of amnesia. Everything is to be discovered, everything to be obliterated." Jean Baudrillard

No 755

ACROSS Untidity crammed (9) Catch, policeman (slang) (3) Boring (7)

Postpone bedtime; show sudden interest (3,2) Little arrow, run quickly (4) Omnipotent (8) 13 Horse entered for race (6)

14 Tolerate; receive (6) 17 Ill-disciplined confusion (8) 18 Miss - Regrets (Cole Porter) (4)

20 Tuft of feathers; highest point (5) 21 Japanese warrior (?) 22 French river, Abraham's

nephew, salty wife (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 754

23 (Of job) involving no physi-cal labour (9)

1 Fr. dept., capital Dijon (4,3) Obstructively near (5,4,4) Norse thunder god (4) Soft sound of leaves, skirts (6) 5 Clear, separately identifiable (8)

6 District from which pupils selected (9.4) Remembrance Day flower (5) 12 Rubbish: esp. rock debris (8) 15 Give witness (7)

16 Gathered in numbers (6) 17 Of the highest noble rank (5) 19 Final word of prayer (4)

ACROSS: I Bubble bath 7 Ohm's Law 8 Girth 10 Disrobe 11 Again 12 Libido 15 Seance 17 Crumb 18 Succumb 21 Samoa 22 Cheddar 23 Dead centre DOWN: 1 Bumps 2 Bilko 3 Low-key 4 Baggage 5 Terrain Goldflocks 9 Hindenburg 13 Brummie 14 Dab hand 16 Psyche

TIMES WORLD ATLASES: 9th Comprehensive De Line Edition ES, 7th Concise Edition EAS and Family Edition ET-99, Compace Edition EA-91, Mini (Procket) Edition EA-91, Mini (Procket) Edition EA-91, Also The Times World History (PB) EL-99.

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THE two knights, A and B, make a tour of the grid. Their progress is by means of knight's moves and each knight visits each square in the grid once only. Thus every square is visited exactly twice. The knights take different continuous paths and these paths are mirror images of

each other. The lights are entered so that they stop one move before the next numbered/lettered square, with the next light continuing from the respectively marked Knight A Fellow that is small in the Shetlands (6) Modified leaf caught in old apron (5) Ring old English bird (6) Venerated object to add space (5) Bread's all eaten by grandma (4)
Quizzes donkey held by bodyguard (6)
Coarse bridal arrangement (6)
Lament to take place an little place (6) Lament to take place on little plano (6)

Flakes of dirt must be scattered south (5) Least complicated unit of magnetic flux (5) Starts to appreciate leading tenor singing high notes (4) Kelvin within right to represent as the same (5) A word against a scrap of verse (5)
Amaigam of copper and mercury producing a
dull explosion (4) Enlarged cells — endless binary system (4) Intuitively holds back old war-god (3) Satisfy a small apprentice, indeed (5) Trap let out stinger (6)
See coloured helfer, a rare servile follower (7)
Marijuana served as light refreshment? (3) Thanks liberal King for short address (4) Wavy star established liquid fuel energy (7)
Graduate in hurried change of light frequency producing this effect (5)

hear (6) shot (9) Armadilio a little tense at the Open University

Last two notes of scale nearly at the end (4)
Large lizard taking grant from crazed gargantuan (5) Look back, in South Africa, for French author (4)

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

irish (8)

Local man to call uninvited (5) Public showing — direct from the Post Office (4) Violently the French go on irritating (6) Knight B Independent existence - shame about the

Horrify a learner after a very quiet start (5) Mini designer to show doubt about fixed minimum (7) Poetic evening in, to promote poem by Virgil (6) Scots shall wear out their national flag (7) Variety performer takes in work, he's a boring Australian (6) Card player to lead, and follow partner — a

meek follower — (3) — nearly useless against the ace of clubs (5) Unfinished, tense letter (3) Shrewd return of mere trifle by backward townie (7) Completely unknown supporter (4)
Knitter makes small ornamental piece (7)

Extra amount, additional to a century (7) A Greek who hid in the mountains that split we Sly character in twisted lace to make a billiards

Small tree from Lake Edward? Abnormal contraction of pupil — note zero convulsion (6)

Unknown worker (amateur) used to thicken food (7) Region surrounding Ohio lake — a slightly sunken spot (6)

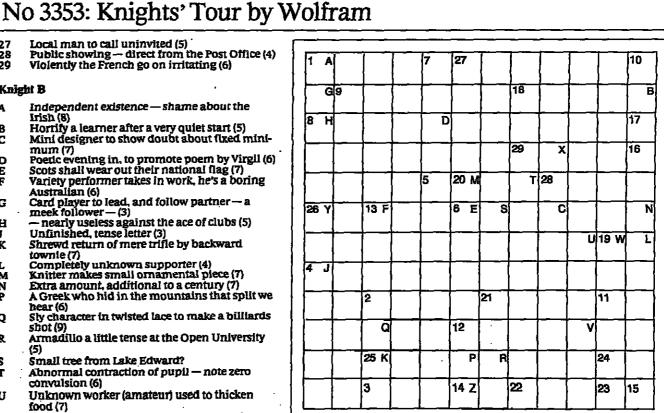
Allen amongst the French lists of candidates (5) Snag to exist following return of pet rabbits (6) Zaire soldlers capture railway enthusiasts (7) Kiss and cuddle in rickety old canoe (8)

Solution to 3350: Up and Down by Doubleshooter

"CULMINATION" must be at the top of the diagram and "FOUNDATIONS" at the bottom. Some solvers may have noticed that, in the completed grid. PEEPER doubles (ie is the counterpart of) HOOTER, hence Doubleshooter.

e.The winner is: Mrs J. Walker of Crowthorne. Berkshire. The runners up are Dr J. Sloan of Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, and J. S. Storrs-Fox of South

1 CULMINATIONTP ONGISOTITLASE 3 LANNERETCOMAE 4 LOKIDESOHCRLP ELEMIRENEGATE CAGUTIPASTEUR TOPSYTURVYDOM RUESSAMADRAGR TARENEGREDLA 10 TWRCHAREASORE 11 OEMACECIMRAER 12 O A R U U D A R S U N N I 13 HRSNOITADNUOF



LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3353

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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3353, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, April 25.

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19 Chear 26 Undue AKOM LIMITED IS NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE OFFER APPLIES UK ONLY. Cave, East Yorkshire. Statistics relating to 1995 crosswords, including personal record, are available to senders of an SAE (220mm x 110mm; from overseas, stamp exempt) to J.E. Green, 31 Bishopric Court, Horsham, West Sussex RHIZ III.

ocueve man it was one of the finest logos magazine saved about 1,000 Rail Express Systems, a former BR ever invented because it is so simple."

favourite computer joke.

Riddle of Master Lu, Chronomas-Werewolf as well as Johnny Bawith your name, age, address and home telephone number, to: Cyberspace Twenty-Three, Com-

with AutoRoute Express, it was a breakthrough aid for anyone having to drive regularly around Britain. Auto-mapping has progressed in leaps and bounds since

puter Games. Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN. You may also fax entries to us on 0171-729 6791. The competition closes at midnight on Tuesday April 30 1996, and the judges will not enter into additional correspon-When NextBase first came out

the map pages.
If thoughts of hitting the open

are fun but forgettable. "Driving is a spectacular form







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My other transport is the MGF with Wings



Tracing the tyre tracks of motoring history

Page 3



SATURDAY APRIL 13 1996

This thing is bigger than both of us

Man, the Dodge Ram is fine. But -Kevin Eason found it a little

here was only one way to end the squeal of rubber as the tyres scrubbed against the narrow kerbs: I turned the stereo up. After all, what is a man to do when he is trying to get a pick-up truck more than 7st 9ins wide through a road less than 8ft across?

on the large side

Exactly. Here was I detailed to test a vehicle normally driven by Mariboro Man and I had to get from one end of London to the other: I get streets built for Dinky toys; Malboro Man had the whole

squeeze the toothpaste back into the tube, only noisier and in front of a bemused is not exactly a shy and you can discreetly park and noticing. Park the Ram and most of the city knows about it: mothers send their children out to watch because it could be more entertaining than Power Rangers, more informative than Blue Peter, office workers take their tea breaks around its arrival and even traffic wardens send back to base for extra ink just in case they get the chance to write

their all-time biggest ticket.

We are talking American
here, as in BIG VERY
VERY BIG; the sort of vehicle the best part of 7ft tall, counting the array of four

There is no way the Ram would go into our local NCP. entertain a parking spot unless it was for two normalsized -vehicles or negotiate ordinary streets where a man on a bike becomes a major obstruction.

nd under that bonnet was no clattering diesel, just an 8-litre V10 with 300 brake horse power - the equivalent of roping together three Escorts and lashing them to the giant red bodywork. The Ram was built for the

Great Outdoors, for the open skies and the long, straight roads of the mid-West - not the one-way system through Watford and the tortuous entrance to Sainsbury's car park. Americans adore the Ram in fact, they love all kinds of pick-ups. Pick-up trucks account for three of the five bestselling vehicles in the US this year. Number one in the sales

charts is the Ford F-series.

followed by the Chevrolet C/K

with the Dodge Ram at num-

ber five. Ford has sold 314,000

of Arizona to go at. This was like trying to

audience, for the Dodge Ram retiring little vehicle, the sort walk away without anyone

that takes a city block to turn and generates enough power to put the Space Shuttle into orbit. The mouthful of name badges said it all: this was a Dodge Ram 3500 VIO Mag-num Laramie 3LT. You would need a long vehicle just to accommodate that much sticker space - and I had the Dodge Ram, which was not just as wide as the Grand Canyon, but 182 ft long and floodlights on top of the cab.

cars in the US this year but 488,000 pick-ups, and the story is the same for Dodge 108,422 cars compared with 214,000 pick-ups, all hard-charging Rams. Compare that with little old Britain where the diminutive Ford Escort tops the sales charts followed by the tiny tot

> But, according to the latest wisdom, Britain is ready for a new craze, a sales void which pick-ups like the Ram are ready to fill. Saloons begat hatchbacks which begat GTis, then 4x4s and people movers, the latest Fad of the Day. Pickups could be next.

Peter Rawlinson, British public relations director for Chrysler, which owns Dodge, says: "Who knows? We would love to sell a vehicle like the Ram, and we have already had people ringing to try to buy this one. Pick-ups have been big in the US for a long time and it could be that the drivers who want leisure vehides but want a change from the usual 4x4 or people mover might want to try a pick-up." Maybe ... if it was just a

DODGE RAM

Price: £21,710.

Engine: Eight-litre, 20-valve V10, for 300bhp at 4,000rpm, 5-speed gearbox, 4-wheeldrive/low-ratio gearbox. Performance: 0-60mph in about 8.5 seconds, top

stereo, cruise control, driver's

airbag and enough lamps to floodlight Old Trafford.

shades. Climbing the 2½ ft on to the steel running board to

get into the cab wearing the

speed 112mph. Fuel economy: There isn't any. Equipment: Superlative

little smaller. I mean, I approached the Ram in the best spirit, deciding to go native with the Marlboro Man look to fit the Marlboro Man's pickup. I held my breath to get into a pair of tight blue jeans, put on a neat, checked himberjack shirt and topped off with the 10-gallon hat and intimidating

challenge (was Marlboro Man rendered impotent by his Le-vis, I wonder), but once inside, the cabin — designed by Brit Trevor Creed — had plenty of

There might only be a cosy three-bench seat, but the steering wheel was as familiar as a car's, with buttons for cruise control, while the stereo was better than the one in my

living room. The manual gear shift was straight from a truck though and the gearing on first so low that I never used it. Town running usually needed only second or third, so great was the torque from the engine that comes straight out of Dodge's legendary Viper

sports car. All that power - and that sheer size ... Yeeh hah! (If I might quote the words of Clint

Eastwood, a popular character actor in films of the Wild West genre.) He would have whupped his saddle and kicked his spurs as the Ram left a trail of dust across the desert; I was off down the Holloway Road, and I started with the warnings of Rawlin-son and his Chrysler crew

ringing in my ears. In the letter covering the loan of the vehicle, Rawlinson



made no bones about the fact that the Ram was a rarity in Britain and its power was not to be toyed with. "The cost of any abuse of the rear tyres will be passed to the journalist to whom the loan was made." recalled as the Ram squeaked its way down that back lane behind the offices of The Times, rear wheels scrubbing

along the narrow track. At last on to the open road,

Rambo: the Dodge Ram 3500 VIO Magnum Laramie 3LT — crazy name, crazy car — generates enough power to put the Space Shuttle into orbit, but in a London street a man on a bike becomes a major obstruction but Rawlinson's words, seared into my brain, fired me into reality like a shot from Colt 45: Normally we say a vehicle can be replaced, it's the occupants that matter, but with the Ram we are willing to make an exception. Gulp.

A press of the throttle and the Ram surged forward, bouncing on its long suspension struts like a speedboat nosing into the waves. But the power came smoothly, pushing the huge truck into the rear view mirrors of drivers ahead who must have thought they were being trailed by Smoky and the Bandit

All I needed now was the cactus and the red mountains, so I could pull up and survey the desert like Marlboro Man, grey smoke spiralling from the up of my cigarette, my eyes squinting against the glare of

the bright sun.

Actually I pulled my hat down against the drizzle as I parked against the hillocks of Hertfordshire and unwrapped a toffee. Maybe I should face the fact I'm just not cut out to be a Ram driver ...





Mercedes-Benz

For more information, call 0800_010107

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

A12 Eastern Avenue, Wan-stead. Construction of M11 link road continues, with eastbound reduced to a single lane ween the Redbridge roundabout and High Street. A214 Beckenham. Sewer repairs on Upper Elmers Road

ween Stanhope Grove and A243 Leatherhead bypass, Kerbing and alteration work at junction with Kingston Road. A310 London Road, Twickenham. Bridge reconstruction work between Crane Avenue

and Cole Park Gardens. A406 North Circular Road, Upper Edmonton. Major road-works continue over Lea Valley viaduct.
A400 Tottenham Court Road.

Resurfacing between Goodge Street and Grafton Way. A501 Marylebone Road. Various restrictions around Baker Street and Great Portland Street junctions.

O SOUTH-EAST M1 Bedfordshire, Lane clo-sures northbound, between junctions 10 and 12. A509 Buckinghamshire. Major roadworks on Wellingborough Road in Olney, at junction with Lavendon Road.

A35 Hampshire. Lane closures eastbound for roadworks between the Rushington roundabout and Redbridge flyover. A36 Hampshire. Bridge repairs at Wellow, north-west of at Wellow, Southampton.

LAD

Iry if dium (58+ tion).
ADVEL vent: 48-51 fensk range (50 of) for tion tion.
AFFEC blow tion.
Warr Lond ALMC almit fense admit sector gent line, warr view Phol

A41 Hertfordshire. Roadworks on North Western Avenue near Dame roundabout.
A249 Kent. Major works at Stockbury roundabout west of

Sittingbourne.

M25 Surrey. Two sections of widening work, with lane closures and contraflows between junctions 6 and 8 and 9 and 10. A247 Surrey. Roadworks between Clandon Station and Clandon Park.

OSOUTH-WEST M4/M5 Avon. Work on second Severn crossing continues, with restrictions around the Almondsbury & Aust interchanges, and also on the M5

around junction 18. M5 Bristol, Lane closeures in both directions between junctions 17 and 20 for strengthening of the Avonmouth Bridge. A373 Devon. Temporary lights between Cullompton and Keepers Cottage. A381 Devon. Roadworks con-

tinue in Teignmouth between Salcombe Dip and Inverteign

M5 Somerset. Contraflow at junction 23. MIDLANDS AND

EAST ANGLIA A6 Leicestershire. Major road-works and contraffow at Lockington, between junction 24 of the M1 and Sawley Island.

M6 Staffordshire, North and southbound entry sliproads on to motorway closed at junction 11 for work on A460. M1 Nottinghamshire. Off-peak

at junction 25 due to the tallation of lights on the entry/exit slip roads. M40 Warwickshire. Various northbound hard shoulder restnctions between junctions 14

lane closures in both directions

A45 West Midlands. Slip road from Birmingham Road to The Windmill Hill closed. A4041 West Midlands. Contrallow on Newton Road for bridge rebuilding work.

NORTH M6 Cheshire, Widening work continues between junctions

A5063 Greater Manchester. Major roadworks and lane closures on Trafford Road near junction with Pomona Strand. A630 South Yorkshire. Major roadworks and contraflow on the Rotherway at Canklow, between junction 33 of the M1 and Rotherham. A167M Tyneside. Northbound lane closures on Newcastle

central motorway near Jes-mond Road interchange for bridge repairs. M1 West Yorkshire, Roadworks and contraflow at end of motor-

way at junction 47. WALES A550 Clwyd, Narrow lanes and

40mph limit for construction of a new interchange. One lane closed southbound during the week between 9.30am and 3.30pm and on Saturdays between 9.30am and 1.00pm. M4 Gwent. Widening work continues in connection with

second Severn crossing be-tween junctions 22 and 24. A547 Gwynedd. Bridge repairs with lights near A55 junction at Landudno Junction.

M4 South West Wales. Contraflow between junctions 45 and 46 for resurfacing work. A48 West Glamorgan, Construction work with lane closures on all approaches to the Wychtree roundabout

A483 West Glamorgan, Major roadworks and contraflow on Fabian Way, Swansea between Elba Crescent and Earlswood

SCOTLAND M8 Strathclyde. Lane restrictions westbound at junction 15. Carriageway is down to three narrow lanes, so long delays

expected. A77 South Ayshire. Temporary lights in place for resurfacing A749 Strathclyde, Dalmamock

Bridge, Glasgow closed southbound for repairs. M90 Tayside. Major roadworks at junction 10 with lane closures in both directions.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



NEWS IN BRIEF

Brit in charge

VAUXHALL gets its first British boss for the best part of a decade. Nick Reilly has taken over as chairman and managing director, succeeding two Americans and an Australian. Reilly, 46. was born in Anglesey and has worked in the US and Mexico for General Motors as well as running Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port plant on Merseyside.

Art with a capital E

SOME cars are born great and go on to be works of art, according to the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The museum just bought a 1963 blue Jaguar E-type, one of only three considered to be beautiful enough to be exhibited at one of the world's most famous temples to art. Terence Riley, curator, says he developed a "wish list" of cars — with the E-type at the top.

Halewood green

THE HALEWOOD plant on Merseyside, which makes Ford's Escort, is the first in the company's worldwide empire to win an award for its environmental work. Ford challenged its plants to clean up emissions and production processes but Halewood. which can make 1,000 Escorts a day, was first of the 150 factories around the world to qualify.

Daewoo price rise

DAEWOO prices have gone up, with the base Nexia GLi 3-door now at £8,795. The top-of-the-range Espero 20 CDXi is £12,995. although Daewoo says there are no "extras" to pay, such as delivery charges or number plates, while all cars come with a tank of fuel, a year's road tax and three-year/60,000-mile warranty.

Mitsubishi success

MITSUBISHI sales in Britain were up 50 per cent in March and are ahead 34 per cent so far this year over the same period of 1995, mainly thanks to the introduction of the new Europeanbuilt Carisma range.

For a minor DIY service you now need a pile of microchips and the home telephone number of Bill Gates

An automatic waste of time

any years ago, when the England cricket team still won occasionally, there arrived a defining moment in my relationship with gadgets. Nearly all men love them, and I am no exception, so the test of a useless gadget is when even a man exclaims: "What the hell is the point of that?"

In my case this exclamation followed the reading of a newspaper article which announced that the electric toothbrush had gone on sale in Britain. It contained a memorable quote from the manufacturers: "Our children will one day see ordinary toothbrushes in a museum and ask us what they were for". Happily, this absurd prediction

proved to be wide of the mark. But it came to mind one morning this week when, for the umpteenth time, I forgot to activate the automatic choke and my car's engine spat and spluttered, juddered and fell silent. The automatic choke is a classic

example of how the car industry

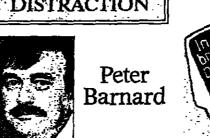
treats its customers like children.

Cars used to have a button that you

pulled out when the engine was cold and pushed in when it warmed up. New drivers occasionally flooded the engine until they got the hang of it. worked perfectly well.

Nowadays, cars have fuel injection and electronic ignition so that the choking system is built in. As the mechanic at my local garage said: They did it to get rid of human error. So now all you've got to worry about is mechanical error."

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Exactly so. Of course, the carmakers claim that it all has to do with emission regulations, which is complete tosh. An automatic choke cuts out at a certain engine temperature. no different from the temperature at which one would close a manual choke. If you did not close it, the

engine would stall.

The truth about automatic chokes is the same as the wider truth about "engine management systems". which is in fact a licence to print

money. Have a look under the bonnet. Fancy doing a minor service? You'll need a couple of things you wouldn't have needed ten years ago. One is a pile of microchips (no. they don't have them in Halfords) and the other is the home telephone number of Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft. Without those two, forget it. You could, if you insist, check the oil and the water, because the carmakers have yet to devise a way of preventing ordinary mortals

from getting at these areas. But it's only a matter of time.

THE END of the Easter school holidays will bring the usual queues and chaos to our motorways. At Easter itself, the AA announced over television news footage of a jammed M40 that soon all our motorways will look like this, all the time.

Now this is a silly statement. I should point out that I happen to belong to the RAC, but that organisation is equally prone to doom-mongering. Lobby groups are the last people we should listen to in

these circumstances. l am as wedded to the motor car as the next person, but I believe a sea change is occuring. I have already stopped travelling to London by car and switched to the railways. Thousands, if not millions, will be doing the same over the next few years.

it all boils down to the balance of convenience. In exchange for the personal freedom of a car, we will tolerate a considerable degree of inconvenience. But there is a point where the scales tip and individuals tend to act en masse and switch to something more convenient.

The Government may pronounce, scaremongers predict doom, environmentalists swing through trees at Newbury. None of this matters a jot. Left to ourselves, we shall solve the problem of road congestion by taking matters into our own hands.

Save now, pay later

What may seem a bargain in the showroom could cost more in the long run, warns

Kevin Eason uying the cheapest car in the showroom can be a false econo-

my, according to a study by one of Britain's vehicle leasing companies. Cowie Interleasing studied its file of company cars to discover which was cheapest and found that writing the smallest cheque to purchase was not automatically the way to lower whole-life costs.

> The cheapest car to run or Cinquecento — the tiny 900cc hatchback that has helped redefine the trends for small city cars. Although it loses nothing to rivals around town in terms of performance, its fuel economy is challenged only by diesel cars, while the sub-£6,000 purchase price remains an attraction.

Even Daewoo is unable to challenge the market leaders when it comes to running costs, despite the South Korean manufacturer's determination to keep maintenance costs down by offering free servicing for the first three years of the car's life. The Daewoo Nexia GLXi, which cost £9,745 at the time of the Cowie survey, would cost companies 20.91p a mile to run, compared with a Ford Escort 1.3i, which is listed at 20.34p in spite of costing nearly £300 more to buy than the Daewoo. The Seat Ibiza 1.0CL looks a

good buy at £0,920, says the company, against competition including Rover's III SLi at £8.146. the Vauxhall Corsa 1.5 diesel at £8.145, Cítroen's AX 1.5 diesel or the Nissan Micra I.OLX, £9,100 at the time of the survey. But all proved cheaper to run, using the Cowie formula. While the Ibiza cost 18.91p a mile to keep on the road, the evergreen Metro came in at 18.07p. the Corsa at 17.75p, the British-built Micra at 18.62p

and Citroën 17.41p. Cowie says more than just price is at play. Resale values can seriously colour the worth of some models, with the cheapest cars more than halving in value as soon as they are driven out of the showroom. A check on future residual values in the authoritative Cap Monitor shows that a Daewoo Nexia saloon could be worth just 45 per cent of its new price after a year on the road: owners of a Cinquecento could expect to see their cars get as high as 66 per cent of value when they came to change it

after a year. The rate of depreciation is also marked. The Cinquecento is predicted to fall in value in steps to 52 per cent of new price at two years old, 34 at three and 26 at four. Compare that with Cap's predictions for the Nexta of 35 per cent, 25 and

18 at the same ages.

Cowie says that higher depreciation and maintenance costs as well as poorer fuel economy take their toll, which means that over 60,000 miles, the Citroën, for example, would prove £900 cheaper to run than the Seat.

Neil Pykett Cowie Interleasing's managing director,



	PRICE	ENGINE	FUEL COST	PER MILE
Flat Cinquecento S	£ 5,925	899	090,6 2	15,66
Renault 5 1.4 Prima	£ 5,973	1390	£ 3,582	17.74
Seat Ibiza 1.0 CL	€ 6,920	1043	£ 3,583	18.91
Volkswagen Polo L 1.0	£ 7,620	1043	€ 3,192	18.88
Rover Mini Mayteir 1.3	£ 7,776	1275	£ 3,869.	18.71
Rover 100 115 S Diesel	£ 7,846	1527	£ 2,634	16.95
Fiat Punto DS	£ 7,989	1698	£ 3,192	18,52
Citroën AX 1.5 Djesei	2 8,060	1527	£ 3,060	17.41
Vauchall Corsa 1,5 Dieset	£ 8,145	1488	£ 2,733	17.75
Rover 100 111 SLI	£ 8,146	1119	£ 3,193	. 18.07
Hyundai Accent 1.3 LSI	£ 8,395	1341	€ 3,125	19.24
Seat Ibiza 1.4 Salsa	€ 8,925	1391	£ 3,765	20.81
Proton SIP 1.5 GLS	£ 9,005	1299	£ 3,864	20.98
Nissan Micra 1.0 LX	£ 9,100	998	£ 2,997	18.62
Darwoo Neds GLXI	£ 9,745	1498	238,82	20,91
Fiat Tipo 1.4 S	£ 9,815	1372	£ 3,866	20.44
Flat Punto 90 ELX	£ 9,956	1581	E 4,194	21.65
Ford Escort 1.3	£ 10,015	1297	2 3,666	26.34
Remark Cho 1.9 Diesel	£ 10,190	1870	£ 2,898	19.35
Peugeot 306 1.4 XN	E 10,625	1360	£ 3.582	20.71



says: "A wrong decision, even concerning small cars, can cost the private buyer £1,000 or more during the ownership period, but for companies running large fleets, a bad choice could cost many millions of pounds more than the right one.

Cowie makes its calculations assuming the car is used over 60,000 miles, buying diesel at 53.lp a litre (24lp a galion) and unleaded petrol at 53.8p (244p). Running costs include purchase price, finance. insurance, maintenance and repairs with personal tax on company drivers calculated at the 25 per cent

AUTOCAR MAGAZINE CNCE

AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans

rate with the driver covering between 2,500 and 18,000 busi-

owie concentrated on small cars in its annual Company Car Comparisons Guide because they are likely to play a greater role in company choice as traffic congestion worsens and fuel economy becomes more important.

Pykett adds: "In the near future, we will see most of the world's volume carmakers moving into the ultra-econosmall car-about-town. Some private sector companies are already looking

1906 CHARLES GLIDDEN DROVE HE NADIGE

4,900 WHE NOW THE ROLLING LINES

FROM BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

seriously at small cars for junior staff." The Cowie formula for cal-

culating running costs springs a number of surprises, making cars which often boast low sticker prices not quite the bargain they seem once they are out of the showroom. Maintenance and repair costs play a significant part in running cost calculations, as a separate report from Velo Insurance Services showed this week. The company checked on average repair costs for crash damage or vandalism among cars from found a wide disparity be-

tween Fiat at the bottom and Mazda at the top. While a Fiat cost on average

just £350 to repair, a Mazda cost £791. In between, Land Rovers cost £378, Peugeot £430, Ford £439, Rover £448, Vauxhall £468, Volvo £479, Jaguar £516, Citroën £520, Volkswagen £574, Nissan £594. Renault £609, Mercedes-Benz £618, BMW £694, Audi £714, Toyota £729, Saab £781. and Honda £791.

Calculations like those from Cowie could matter a lot when the market for new cars is in a state of turmoil. While sales to private buyers continue to struggle, sales of fleet cars are ahead with companies seemingly happy to invest in vehicles in spite of Britain's missing feel-good factor.

Alan Pulham, director of the National Franchised Dealers Association, blames the lack of private sales on carmakers pitchung their prices too high which deters many who would simply prefer to wait and buy motors at a year or two old but at much lower prices.

"As an industry, we are failing to deliver the message that a car is excellent value for money," he says. "Private car purchases will continue to slide until manufacturers return to a realistic pricing policy. The fleet and business market continue to prop up the figures, but low profit margins and falling resale values on volume products are not the best way to sustain the industry in the long term."

ow and where customers buy their cars could be as important in the future as what they buy and how much they pay though. Daewoo decided early on to attack the traditional notions of car buying: customers going to a one-make showroom, their minds almost made up before they shop because they have chosen that one dealership above all others. The purchase usually requires a special trip - but not if Daewoo has its way.

Having sited showrooms in out-of-town shopping centres, the company has now linked up with a supermarket chain. The first super-salesroom is at the Savacentre at London Colney, Hernfordshire, As shoppers wheel out their trolleys, they can check on Daewoo, using touch-screen computers, and there is one car in the showroom and six more in the car park.

If the idea takes off, shopping might never be the same again with a trip to the supermarket for frozen peas and two bottles of Chardonnay also including a quick look at the latest motoring models.

● Cowie's Company Car Comparisons Guide is available on 0345-585840, or send an A4 sae to Cowie Interleasing, Icknield Port Road, Birmingham Blo OBE.

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IN VIETNAM, BUT A BASIC TOYOTA

Diane is left in a hole with her Polo Tony Dawe on

an impasse



iane Gilbert Scott has owned her Volkswagen Polo for more than six months but driven it for only 12 days - the rest of the time it has been under repair or parked on her drive.

The story is the latest to join Car 96's burgeoning file of Cars from Hell and could take longer than most to resolve as she and Volkswagen have reached an impasse which will require an expert diplomat rather than a customer services manager to end.

As soon as she drove her new car away from Blade Motor Company of Gloucester last September, she thought the gearbox was stiff. Twelve days later, it started to pack up. No matter how she pushed and pulled, it was impossible to select reverse. She took the car back to Blade, but within days the gears had gone again. The garage attempted fur-

ther repairs, but when the Polo was returned to Diane's home in Stroud, Gloucestershire, she told the mechanic after a test drive that it was still unsatisfactory.
When her husband, Peter,

took it for a test run, he found he couldn't select first or second gear and had the hairraising experience of negotiating roundabouts in driving sleet in third. A technical inspection by

the RAC confirmed the car could "present the driver with a potentially hazardous driving situation". Blade offered to send a transporter to pick it up for more tests but, on the advice of solicitors recommended by the RAC, Diane was only prepared to allow VW to inspect the car in her drive in the presence of an RAC technical expert.

"I want a new car," she says. "I am totally dissatisfied with VW and Blade. They have had two attempts to put things right and failed. I have a duff car and want it replaced

Under the new Sale of Goods Act of January, 1995, I am entitled to a replacement car, but, significantly, in the VW sales material they quoted the previous Act."

A spokesman for VW says: Our customer care department is talking to her and we hope we can resolve the problem, but it is very difficult il we cannot have proper access. We are quite prepared to give her a vehicle of equal value while we take the Polo

Thanks to readers of Car 96, the list of Coventry's missing heritage is much shorter. Tony Dawe reports

A city's wheels of history that still turn

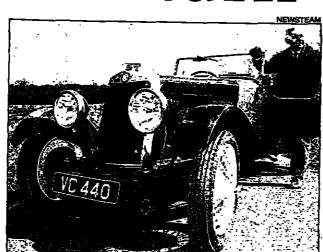
missing Coventry cars, launched by Car 96 three weeks ago, has inspired readers to comb atrics for memorabilia, dust off old photograph albums and even present models that motor historians thought they would never see.

Many did not realise that the cars they possess - or used to own - are rare, and most had bought them in their youth in the 1940s and 1950s when they "could not afford anything better".

The hunt was started to help officials in Coventry to find as many makes as possible to feature in the centenary year of the British industry. Of the 132 carmakers which had set up in the city in the past 100 years, they could find only 40 whose models had survived. The missing list is now shorter and vital clues have been provided to help trace some of the more elusive models. Historians have learnt of cars they didn't know they were looking for and one reader has even offered the city's Museum of British Road Transport two rare Coventry-made cars.

In launching the hunt, Car 96 featured Cluley, a 1920s manufacturer whose models seemed to have disappeared completely, and two historic cars: the Hillman Straight 8 Segrave, named after the legendary racing driver of the 1920s and from the wellknown maker absorbed by bigger companies; and the Lea-Francis Hyper, one of which triumphed in the 1928 Ulster TT race, from a com-

pany that expired in 1954. Readers were quick on the trail of the Chiley and we have including one owned jointly by the grandson of the company's founder and his cousin (see below). While still searching



found a Lea-Francis, which was built for the 1929 Le Mans 24-hour race and is now owned by Nick Alexander, but

the Segrave Hillman remains

ill Starling, artistic and administrative director of the Young Persons Concert Foundation, recalled buying an early 1930s Hillman Vortic Straight 8 some 30 years ago. "I was a young and impecunious car fan in those days and eventually found the vehicle too involved to restore and

gave it away," he said. "But I have heard of it since then. After a picture appeared in Classic Car in April 1985, a Mr Hopper wrote asking if i knew what had happened to all the wood trim as he was hoping to restore the car. I put him in touch with the person who I thought had last re-

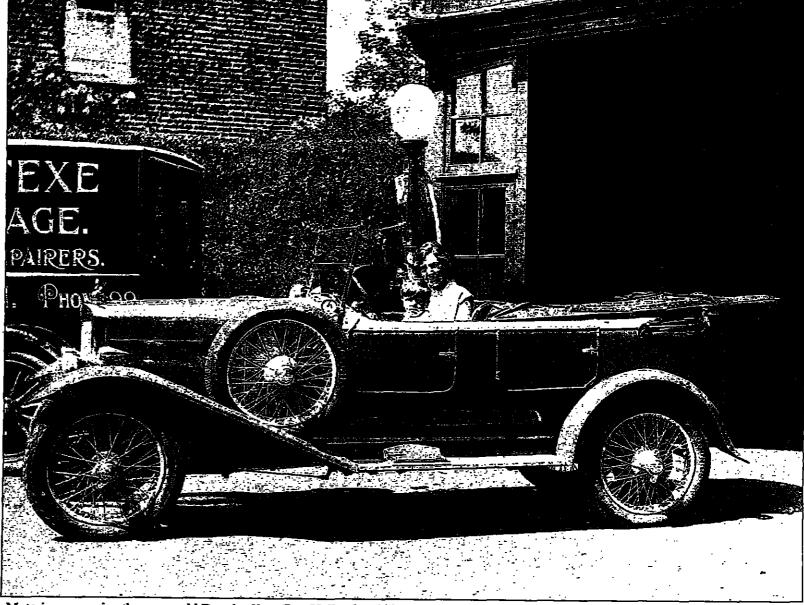


David Mortimer wrote from Budleigh Salterton, Devon, that he had bought a Hillman Segrave coupé as his first car in 1958. "It cost me £10 and a typewriter," recalled.

"It was a four-cylinder car of some 16 brake horsepower with a wood and fabric body and still had its owner's man-- which contained instructions for getting to the factory at Ryton near Coventry.

"It had an annoying right-side handbrake, which made entry and exit a bit awkward. The brakes were individually adjusted by star wheels, the front being set to come on just before the rear. As the brakes also suffered from noisy juddering, emergency stops were something to be avoided. The previous owner had recommended and provided me with graphite powder to ease them.

"I did several trips from Kent to Cornwall in it, however, and even managed 55mph downhill. It gave me many happy hours of double de-clutching which stood me in good stead afterwards when the clutch cable snapped on more modern cars on two



Motoring memories: three-year-old Douglas Kaye Don Holland and his mother in his father's four-door Lea Francis outside their home in Devon

'It still had its

owner's manual —

Mr Mortimer's story has a sad ending, however. The Hillman Segrave eventually ground to a halt, he was given a company car and the classic went to the scrapyard.

The hunt for the Lea-Francis Hyper, driven to victory in Ulster by Kaye Don, has produced an entertaining story, if not the car itself. Douglas Kave Don Holland wrote from Tiverton, Devon, to tell us that his father, a garage owner between the world wars, was such a fan of famous racing drivers that he was named after the Ulster victor and his brother after Sir Malcolm Campbell. Holland even enclosed a photograph of him-

mother in a four-door Lea-Francis his father had owned. The historic Lea-Francis owned by Mr Alexander has just been restored by Barry Price at his Warwick work-

entries which will lap the circuit before this year's race on June 15/16. "It looks better than new," proud Mr Alexander said. "I didn't buy it because of its provenance; it was the sort of car available for a young man to buy in 1950 when I purchased it because there was a long wait for new cars and

learnt its history later."

with instructions shop and is set to join a cavalcade of former Le Mans for getting to the factory at Ryton' the 1.5-litre class in the 1929

race and finished eighth overall, with drivers Peacock and Newsome aboard. It was then bought by a wool merchant from Huddersfield but had they were too expensive. I only done a low mileage when Mr Alexander purchased it. "I was at university and

Barry Price and now plan to treasure it because it is unique: the only surviving Le Mans Lea-Francis in the world." He and his car will be invited to join the display of

used it as my daily transport and I also did speed trials and

rallies in it," he said. "I then

embarked on a career and had

no time for such frivolities and

the car was neglected. But 18

Coventry cars planned in the city on August Bank Holiday Monday by the local museum. For its part, the museum has received a tempting invitation from a Car 96 reader.

Norman Milne, of Kinghorn,

Fife, is offering two rare

Coventry-built cars to the mu-

loon and a 1953 Sunbeam Talbot 90 Mark IIA sports saloon. "The Hillman is the very months ago I entrusted it to first production Phase III off the line at Ryton in late 1948. the wide, full-width, curved screen model, not the prewar

seum on extended loan; a 1949

Hillman Minx Phase III sa-

rehash of 1948, and is incredibly rare." he said. The Sunbeam is a significant Coventry car, being the outright winner of the 1955 Monie Carlo Rally, and although the New Lanark car museum in Scotland would like to take the car, it would be far more appropriate to have it

on permanent display in

Where is George Formby's favourite?

ALTHOUGH the name Hill-man may be more familiar than the other two marques we chose for our first search for Coventry's lost cars, the model we illustrated, the Straight 8 Segrave, is proving elusive, writes Alan Copps.

The model was apparently named after the great racing driver Sir Henry Segrave after he had been impressed by one of the company's four-cylinder cars at the 1927 Olympia Motor Show.

Our quest has brought forth a host of entertaining anec-dotes and photographs, not least that supplied by Roger Cooper of Rickmansworth. Herts. The photograph shows his mother enjoying what he describes as "a fairly alcoholic picnic" in the back of such a car she owned in the 1930s.

"The car was constructed by my grandfather. Tom Owen, who was one of many small one-man-band coachbuilders at the time," says Mr Cooper. "His premises were in Park Crescent Mews, London WI and the car was made for Mr Justice Sachs. My mother purchased it in 1933/4. She ran it for two or three years before selling it in favour of a Riley Kestrel saloon, presumably

The registration UW 4467 is

THIS immaculate 1923 3-

litre Bentley can add some-

thing to Coventry's motoring history which

even the city's experts did

not know. It is one of just 14

with bodywork made by

Carbodies of Coventry, a

firm whose main business.

now is to produce the black

Bentley went to 30 differ-

ent companies for the body-

work for its classic cars, with

Vanden Plas the most re-

nowned, and this may be the

only one with Carbodies

coachwork still in existence.

built by Noel Pizey of Bath,

who used his skill as a

surgeon to take the car

completely apart, bolt by

bolt, apart from the gearbox.

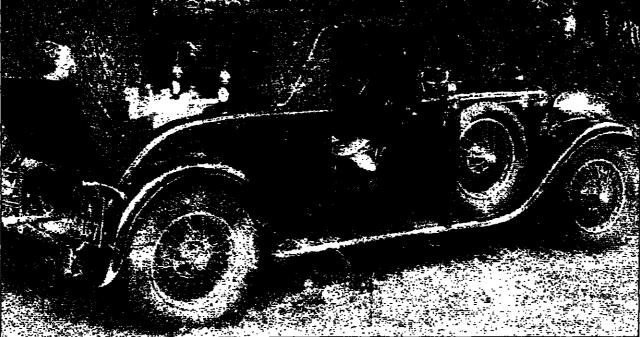
The chassis was shot-blast-

ed, new piston rings provid-

ed for the engine and the car

It has been lovingly re-

taxi cab.



Taking a back seat: Roger Cooper's mother relaxes in her Hillman Straight 8 Segrave after a "fairly alcoholic picnic"

clear on the original photograph and may give readers a clue to its fate. Mr Cooper says he believes the car was the undoing of the Hillman company because they were venturing into a luxury market with which they were not

SURGICAL OPERATION ON A RARE BODY OF WORK

repainted in its original

me to and from work and

paid only £175 because deal-

ers thought the design of

these cars rather uninterest-

ing," he said. "I used it every

day for years, but now that it

is insured for £100,000 I

don't take it out too often.

"I bought it in 1957 to get

cream colour.

Noel Pizey's 1923 Bentley, a surprise for the experts

familiar. In 1928 the company merged with its neighbour, Humber, and two years later both became part of the Rootes

Other sightings of the Segrave Hillman come from Leyland, Lancs, in the 1960s,

"One of the highlights of

the year, however, is when

we join the Bentley drivers'

club outing to Brittany.

where this picture was tak-

en. It continues to run

beautifully and needs just

. In its early days, Car

bodies also made coach-

half a turn to start."

work for Rolls-Royce.

Essex which was due to be put on the market this month. One celebrity owner of such a car was the comic singer

and lived in Blackpool, Every and we are checking on one in night after the show he drove home to Blackpool, which was considered very daring in those days. I spoke to him one George Formby. "Around night and he said it was the 1928/29 he was appearing at a theatre in Salford, Lancashire, Mr F.E. Greaves of Anglesey.

Outstanding names

THIS is the British Musueum of Road Transport's list of companies set up to make cars in Coveritry with approximate date of manufacture. Examples of those in bold are known to exist, any clues about others would be welcome. Write to Coveritry Cars, Car 96, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

Academy 1906-08; Acme 1919; Aircraft 1926-30; Albetros 1923-24; Alfarc

Academy 1906-08; Acme 1919; Aircraft 1926-30; Albetros 1923-24; Alfard 1899-02; Alpha 1903-14; Alvis 1920-67; Andy Rouse 1983+; Arden 1912-16; Ariel 1922-25; Armstroug-Stiddeley 1919-60; Amo 1908; Aurora 1903-04; Auto Forge 1967+; Autovia 1937-38; Awson 1926-90; B & A 1937-38; Barnett 1926-30; Barylisa 1926-30; Berstian 1938-39; Billings 1900; Branco 1926-30; Birtish Motor Co 1898; British Motor Traction 1906-10; Broadway 1913; Brooks 1902; BSA; Buckingham 1913-23; Calcott 1913-26; Carbodles 1943+; Carbon 1901-02; Centaur 1900-01; Challenge 1919-25; Chota 1913; Clarendon 1902-03; Clement 1908-14; Climax(White & Poppe) 1905-07; Cluley 1922-26; Condox 1907; Cooper 1919-23; Coronet 1904-06; Couder 1923; Coventry Motette 1896-1900; Coventry-Premier 1919-23; Coventry-Victor 1928-37; Crawford 1901; Crouch 1912-22; Currard 1906-10; Daimler 1897+; Daisy 1926-30; Dalton & Wade 1906-10; Devideon 1926-30; Dawson 1920; Deasy 1908-11; Doherty 1906-10; Duryes 1902-06; Dutson-Ward 1906-10; Eagle 1912-13; Emms 1922-23; Endurance 1898-01; Ferguson 1950+; Forge 1903-05; Forman 1904-06; General & Bloomfield 1994-96; Glover 1912-13; Godiva 1900-01; Gravenor 1906-10; Great Horseless Carriage 1998-96; Hamilton 1906-10; Hill 1926-30; Hillman 1907-79; Hobart-Bird 1906-10; Hotchkiss 1920; Hubbards 1906-10; Humber 1898-1968; Huriey 1906-10; Hamilton 1906-10; Hill 1926-30; Hillman 1907-79; Hobart-Bird 1906-10; Hotchkiss 1920; Hubbards 1906-10; Humber 1898-1968; Hurley 1906-10; Iden 1904-07; Jaguar 1945+; Lady 1899; Lanchester 1900-56; Lea-Francis 1904-1; Lee-Stroyer 1904; Lee Eabb 1925; Loris 1908-12; Markey & Buckingham 1912-13; Marseel 1919-25; Mandalay 1902-23; MMC 1898-04; Moore & Owen 1906-10; Morris 1913-82; Motor Radiator 1912; Neville Sinclair 1906-10; New Beeston 1898; Noble 1919-25; Norton 1913; Omega 1925-27; Payne & Bates 1900-01; Premier 1912-14; Priory 1901-05; Progress 1898-03; Ragian 1899; Ranger 1913-14; Record 1905; Remington 1926-30; Rex 1901-14; Ridley 1901-07; Rilley 1904-38; Rower 1904-1; Rudge 1912-13; Ryder 1901-07; Rilley 1904-38; Rower 1904-1; Rudge 1912-13; Ryder 1900-56; Standard 1903-63; Stonebow 1901; Stoneleigh 1912-24; Sturmey 1909-12; Supercar 1935-40; Swellow-SS 1932-45; Swift 1900-31; Talbot 1979+; Taylor-Swelnam 1913; Titan 1911; Tritumph 1923-1; Taylor 1979+; Taylor-Swelnam 1913; Titan 1911; Thumph 1923-1; Taylor 1979-1; Taylor 1979-1; Taylor 1979-1; Taylor 1979-1; Taylor 1979-1; Taylor 1979-

A CLULEY THAT BECAME A FAMILY CAR AGAIN

OF ALL the cars being hunted by Coventry's motor historians, the Cluley has turned up almost in abundance, writes Tony Dawe. Nine are known to exist, including one jointly owned by the company founder's grandson and his cousin.

John and Richard Cluley are carrying out a major service so that the car can appear in rallies this summer. They can also offer historians something extra: a fascinating insight into the story of the company. While the Cluleys can tell

their personal story, the man with all the facts is Roger Armstrong of Esher, Surrey, who has produced the Cluley News, a 12-page newsletter with details of the nine cars in existence, and an article from The Motor of September 15, 1920, about the first 10 horsepower model produced.

His research shows that none of the surviving cars is in the hands of the original owners, including the 1924 two-seater 10 horsepower bought by John Cluley. "I had never seen one and had no idea what the cars looked like when I joined grandfather's company in the 1950s, when it was making gearing and transmission components for helicopters," John

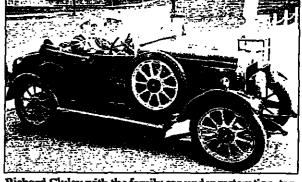
recalled.

"I was born in 1939, a long time after the last car had been made, and all the records and designs had been destroyed in the blitz. So you can imagine my delight when I saw one advertised somewhere in Doncaster in a motoring magazine. The asking price was £60 and I arranged to

go and see it. "I was young and inexperienced in those days and introduced myself straight away as Mr Cluley, at which point the price went up to £120. I felt a bit of a fool, but was so proud to see the car that I bought it and towed it back to the Midlands. It was not in running order and the bodywork was poor, but with some professional help we smartened it up and used it for advertising in the

factory." After selling the company in the late 1980s, the Cluleys decided to rebuild the car





Richard Cluley with the family car under restoration, top, and with his cousin, John, in the 1990 Shakespeare run

and Richard now looks after it. "It has performed excellently in several rallies and is a very good car which should be kept in running order," he said. "It was going very well last year, but was not entirely satisfied with it. I have found one or two original bits and, as it is eight years since the rebuild, decided to have some major work carried out to make it

THEIR grandfather set up the company at the Globe Works, Coventry, in 1895 with a partner called Clarke who stayed with the firm for only a short time. "My grandfather became friendly with the Courtauld family and when they were short of money helped them through difficult times," John said. "His reward was a contract to make textile machinery

components for Courtaulds. "In the early 1900s, Clarke Cluley began making Globe bicycles and I was told that a young William Morris used to travel from Oxford to buy them to sell in his shop. The company went on to make a tricycle called a Cymocar and entered the car market in 1920 when my father, Charles, and uncle Norman joined the firm.

"By 1928, hundreds of cars had been made, but by then people like Morris were making similar cars at a lower price. Unlike many other Coventry carmakers. grandfather saw the light and pulled out of the motor business before losing all his money and went on to make components for Rolls-

Royce aeroengines." The company moved to Kenilworth during the blitz, but later returned to a home on the Coventry trading estate. After the family sold it, the company struggled to survive and is now in receivership.

Armstrong added that Clarke Cluley was an unusual car company because it tried to make everything, including engines, in-house instead of buying in readymade parts. The Cluley is a very robustly-built light car of conventional design, wellengineered and of the utmost simplicity," he said. "Hand-built in small batches, it could not hope to compete with the larger manufacturers whose cars were very similar but cheaper and better equipped."



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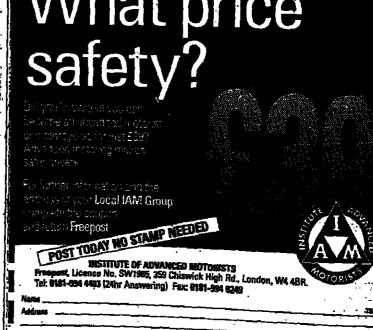
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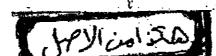
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Audi 🦠

Philip Schofield tells Andrew Pierce of moments that shatter his image

A nasty streak inside Mr Nice

ne of the longest-running musicals in the West End. Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, finally closes next week. Fittingly, it is Philip Schofield, who first played the lead in 1992, who will be bowing out with the production on April 20. Other limitarian bases depend to 20. Other luminaries have donned Joseph's loin cloth, but Schofield has been the most successful. "It has become a way of life. It will be strange not to have it around," he says.

How did you first learn to drive?

It was one of the biggest con tricks I ever pulled off. I learnt in New Zealand, where I lived for four years. One of the few people I knew ran a driving school and there was one test slot in the year everyone fought for — the one just before Christmas when my instructor delivered a giant hamper to the head of the traffic division. The lesson immediately after the delivery was regarded as the one most likely to succeed. My instructor gave me the slot because he was a family friend. I mucked up the three-point turn, clipped the corner and jumped amber lights. Despite the disasters. I passed with flying colours.

What was your first car?

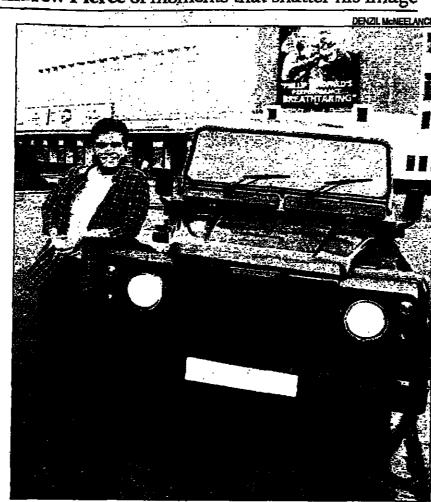
A Sunbeam Rapier. I adored it. It looked like a Hillman Minx with a walnut dashboard with little tiny plastic eyelids on the indicators. But it cost too much to keep on the road.

What car do you drive now, and why?

A Land Rover 110 TDI. We live on the top of a hill in Oxfordshire. It can be clear for miles around but snow on the top of our hill. We had a Suzuki four-wheel drive, but it was like a paper dart in the wind. The Land Rover is suited to the travails of remote rural life.

What is your most hated car?

The Ford Scorpio: It looks like a fish and is the ugliest car I have seen.



Philip Schofield: picking up points on his licence only when mother is in the car

STEERING COLUMN

What is your dream car?

The new Jaguar which is based on the Etype. If I was young, free and single, I would have one like a shot.

What is your worst habit in the car?

I am a bad abuser, not at all like my cleancut image. I enjoy the wonderful moment when the target of my invective recognises me. You can see it dawning on them: Hang on. That's Mr Nice from television. How does he know those words?"

What infuriates you most about other

When they drive with their foglights on when it is not foggy and within eight millimetres of my bumpers.

Have you ever had points on your licence?

Only when I have had my mother in the

car. I have been pulled for speeding more than once, when she is in the passenger seat. We are so busy chatting I have forgotten about the speed. I never asked her to pay the fines.

What do you listen to in the car?

Mollie, my 2'2-year-old daughter, sing? ing. She particularly enjoys a medley of nursery rhymes.

you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing vou would do?

Authorise the building of a tunnel from my house to central London purely for my own use. It would go straight into my own personal parking space. I might let my friends use it.

What is your favourite car advertisement?

The new Rover commercial which claims to be the second most comfortable ride you will ever have. I don't think so.

F1 Fantasy Drive update



03 D Hill	112	223
Group B		
04 G Berger	72	111
05 E Irvine	114	218
06 J Villeneuve	112	156
Group C		
07 D Coulthard	104	140
08 M Hakkinen	32	142
09 HHi Frentzen	42	90
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Below we print the results of last week's Argentinian Grand Prix and the

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01 M Schumacher 65

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race

points

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Fantasy

points

173

225

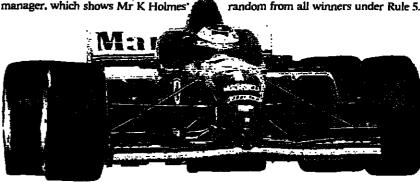
team comorising one driver from each of the eight groups.

UNTIL NOON THURSDAY APRIL 25

cumulative points in each category for both the Brazilian and Argentinian races. Remember, the Australian Grand Prix does not count towards our point scoring system. Also today we introduce the first of our leaderboards showing the position. number of points to date, team name, and the name of the fantasy team

Duplada 4 Racing and Mr I Harvey's Rabbit Racers sharing the top position on 1,348 points each.

Our second race winner for the performance of his team in the Argentinian Grand Prix is Peter Burton from Alton in Hampshire. His team. Burton-York, scored 743 points. He wins a day for two at the British GP courtesy of Jonathan Palmer. He was chosen at random from all winners under Rule 5.



HOW YOUR DRIVERS SCORED POINTS IN ARGENTINA

Qualifying points are scored by qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid: D Hill 20; M Schumacher 19; J Villeneuve 18; J Alesi 17; G Berger 16; R Barrichello 15; J Verstappen 14; M Hakkinen 13; D Coulthard 12; E Irvine11; HH Frentzen 10; O Panis 9; U Katayama 8; T Marques 7; M Brundle 6; M Salo 5; J Herbert 4; P Diniz 3; P Lamy 2; R Rosset 1. Finishing points are scored by the top 20 drivers at the end of every grand prix: D Hill 20; J Villeneuve 19; J Alesi 18; R Barrichello 17: E Irvine 16: J Verstappen 15; D Coulthard 14; O Panis 13; J Herbert 12; A Montermini 11. (No other finishers)

Lap points one point for each lap

D Hill 72; J Villeneuve 72; J Alesi 72; R Barrichello 72; E Irvine 72; J Verstappen 72; D Coulthard 72; O Panis 72; J Herbert 71; A Montermini 69; G Berger 56; M Schumacher 46; P Larny 39; M Salo 36; M Brundle 34; T Marques 33; H-H Frentzen 32; P Diniz 29; U Katayama 28; R Rosset 24; L Badoer 24; M Hakkinen 19. Improved position points three points for each place improved from starting grid to finishing position:

A Montermini 36; J Herbert 24; E Irvine 15; O Panis 12; R Barrichello 6; D Coulthard 6; J Villeneuve 3; J Alesi 3; J Verstappen 3.

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19	1332	RKV 4	David Rokov
19	1332	Oily Rag	Derek harvey

CHECK YOUR SCORE

Players can check the scores and positions of their teams by calling the hotline number below (Republic of Ireland readers should call 004 499 020 0501). Remember to have your 10-digit PIN number handy when you call. The line currently carries all positions after the Brazilian and Argentinian Grands Prix and will be updated again on Tuesday

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ou don't have to win our competition to be Diane convinced that professional training for company car drivers pays, but leftir Steve Howe, who drives thousands of miles a month as a computer systems engineer, was third in 1994, won the competition last year and now he has entered again. Since his first attempt at the contest he

> er for driver training. "I thought I'd give it another try just to ensure that whoever wins this year is of an equal or higher standard," he says. Driver training is exceedingly important. There are more and more cars on the road, our workload increases and the pressure to get to appointments on time is also increasing.

has become a keen campaign-

"It was also a very good holiday." he added, referring to the prize of a European tour he won last year for becoming. The Times-Lease Plan Company Car Driver of the Year.



There is still time to enter this year's contest by filling in the accompanying form. Heats start in Maidstone on May 3, and even if you don't win there is a lot of fun to be had by testing your skill and knowledge against the former police instructors who will be

assessing our hopefuls. To add extra spice, each of this year's heats will also feature a demonstration by one of the services, ambulance, fire brigade, police, Army and the Navy. They will not be competing against our Alan Copps on

why Steve Howe

is making his third appearance

in our contest

that will improve driving standards

contestants, but their performances will be timed for a special inter-services challenge. The winning team will give a further demonstration of their skills at our final at Silverstone on June 21. Steve will be among those

watching the services with particular interest. He works for Bleasdale Computers of Lutterworth, Leicestershire, who provide a 24-hour, 365days-a-year, back-up service for the computers that keep ambulance services, accident and emergency departments

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Maidstone, Kent	Friday, 3 May		Oxford	Friday, 10 May
Wigan, Lancs	Friday, 17 May		Elstree, Herts	Friday, 24 May
Stourport, Hereford	Friday, 31 May		Leicester	Friday, 7 June

Please ensure that entrant and nominated drivers are available for both first and second choice dates and for Silverstone on Friday, 21 June. Initial qualification may be by telephone questionnaire. Entrants and drivers will be contacted on an individual basis.

Once you have completed this entry form fax to Lease Plan on 01753 620676

may not be permitted to caser. A place is the regional heats will be confirmed by post, at least one days prior to the heat. In the creat of over subthrough a random driver telephone questionstaine. If the nears does not qualify for the regional heat, the enterest will be informed in writing prior. ees. Cash alternatives are not available. The judge's d

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Adaptable on land and in the air

Brian Lecomber tells David Long about his 'MG' that flies and

a classic change

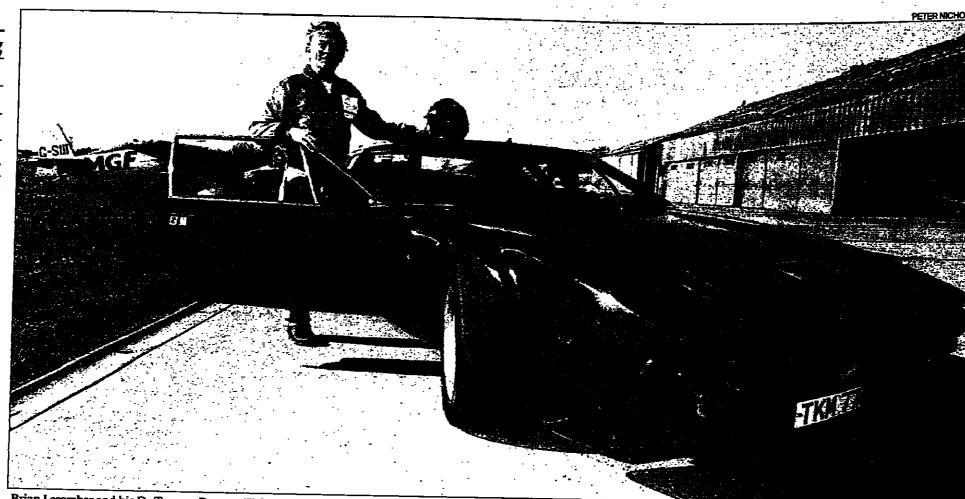
rian Lecomber's twoseater MG is probably the world's fastest it should be, it cost him the best part of £150,000 - and is perfect for his job as a professional display pilot. But weekends off see him at the wheel of a rare De Tomaso Pantera, and after several years spent modifying this much-maligned Italian he has finally got it sorted.

His "MGF" — actually one

of two German-built Extra 300 monoplanes currently sponsored by the Rover Group — is powered by an American Lycoming nine-litre flat-six engine and develops around 300 horsepower. Roughly similar. in fact, to the output of another famous six-cylinder "boxer" engine, the one in the back of the Porsche 911 Carrera, although with its incredible power-to-weight ratio the Extra is faster and more manoeuverable than anything built by Porsche.

in Brian's work, manoeuverability is absolutely crucial. A Boeing 747, he will tell you, can roll through 90 degrees in around 10 seconds, but his Extra can do it in less than one. Only that is the time it takes to flip right over, all the way round, and lock back into level flight again, a stomachchurning manoeuvre he has completed thousands of times. In fact Britain's former Freestyle Aerobatic Champion admits to not knowing exactly how many displays he has flown over the last two decades, but reckons it must be

He and his flying partner in



Brian Lecomber and his De Tomaso Pantera: "It is a classic of its era, the original box-o'-bits special. Even people at the factory will agree there is no such thing as a standard specification"

Aerobatics, Alan Wade, both hold the very rare Display Authorisation to fly Unlimited (World Class). This no-holds-barred licence entitles them to demonstrate highspeed flying manoeuvres down to a base height of only 30 feet, enabling the pair to devise and execute spectacular displays and to build a formidable reputation as the country's premier, civilian aerobatic display team.

It is hardly surprising, therefore, that when it comes to driving, Brian has picked something slightly out of the ordinary. The American-engined Italian-designed Pantera is not his first classic car: he once sold a favourite Jaguar XK140 to raise the money to gain his flying instructor's

It is seven years since he stopped buying new cars, and four since he acquired the Pantera, but there have been several interesting machines along the way. As well as an "improved" Jaguar Vi2 saloon which he still owns, Brian has run other XKs, a 1987 Chevrolet Corvette and a Lamborghini Jalpa. The latter, sadly. was somewhat under-used during his 18 months as its

custodian, but it introduced Brian to Italian cars and so. indirectly, led him to the De Tomaso. It was, he says, both a pleasure and a pain. loved driving it, and I

still prefer it to the rival Ferrari 308. That handled very well, but the electrics were a nightmare and it was much too expensive to repair, which was why the Pantera looked like a sensible alternative.

Introduced to the UK in 1972, although very few were sold with right-hand drive, the Pantera offered a combination

of a stylish European body (and name) with a powerful but relatively cheap and dura-ble American V8. "It wasn't a new concept even then. Iso did it in Italy and AC with the Cobra, but I wanted a car with a roof so the Cobra was out and the rarity of the Iso meant body repairs for even the slightest ding would be back

up to Jalpa levels." With a good support network, and parts available from the United States, the Pantera seemed perfect. Well, almost. I eventually found one of the rare right-hookers. and it did look beautiful, but

the performance was disappointing."

The solution was drastic. As well as improving the suspension and up-rating the brakes, he had the standard 5.7-litre bored and stroked out to 6.4 and around 400 horsepower. "More fun," says Brian, who after a period spent as a BMW racing bike mechanic, freely admits that "there is no such thing as too much power." Neither does he feel guilty about customising a classic, arguing that half of the Panteras in the owners' club have been modified in one way

so we rocked and rolled to a

river crossing that lasted 12

hours and ended at 4.30am.

The boatman earned as much

in those hours as he would

have done in two years. The

villagers watched in disbelief

"It's still a bit of a handful, but I like the Pantera because it is a classic of its era, the original box-o-bits special. Even people at the factory will agree that there is no such thing as a standard specification. They frequently switched suppliers when components

ran out. The steering rack on mine, for example, comes from a lefthand drive Austin Allegro; other Panteras probably have something else. De Tomaso just fitted what they felt worked well at the time and as owners we are simply continuing the tradition."

managed to lose it on a rickety bridge. As he accelerated over the bamboo slats, the rear-left wheel crunched through, leaving several feet of chasm yawning expectantly. Thanks to the efforts of all the teams,

the car was eventually winched across. By Thursday, the convoy was already behind schedule. Because the rains were so violent, many bridges have been washed away. These need to be rebuilt or an

alternative route found. On Easter Monday we had another narrow escape. As the vehicle proceeded down a washed-out road, the sand surface gave way, leaving the right hand side virtually in thin air. Again, it was only winching and snatching that averted an early flight home.

Why your local Rover dealer is closing

A few years ago the friendly little garage I'd always relied on ceased to be a Rover dealer. Now I hear that the main dealer who has looked after my cars since then may face the same fate. What's going on?

A You are suffering the combined symptoms of high technology, Rover's move upmarket and falling car sales. The manufacturers call it restructuring, we doctors refer to it as a cutback.

400 Isra

But if it's getting more difficult to sell cars. surely having plenty of dealers to provide after-sales-service is important?

A Things simply aren't that straightforward in the automotive jungle. First of all, Rover is planning to sell fewer and more expensive cars, rather than lots of family runabouts. Second, because modern cars are packed with more and more electronics and other advanced technologies, only dealers who can afford the right equipment are able to service them properly, thus keeping your warranty valid. So the cheerful little mechanic who runs his own garage is being squeezed.

But I like to know just who is tinkering with my daily transport. Is this the end of the personal touch?

According to Rover, this reorganisation "will create a business in which premium-positioned cars are sold through premium outlets seeking lifetime relationships

I see. Just how many dealers are going to get the chop then?

Rover has 511 dealers at present, that's half as many as it had five years ago. The company wants to reduce the number by another 150.

And if they are going to cars get better as a result?

Rover is now owned by A BMW and they have concentrate on luxury models rather than competing headon with the mass producers. They expect to see Rover's market share in Britain fall from 13 per cent last year to between 9 and 10 per cent. The crucial model, the first developed with BMW, will be introduced in 1998 to replace the 600 and 800 ranges.

Mud bogs and Englishmen

The participants in the struggling through the vilest glop that Indonesia can offer. Despite months of selections and training, none of the teams can have anticipated the hideousness of building bridges over mosquito-infested waters in 43C. At that temperature, even a game of low-stakes backgammon will have armpits glowing.

Bodies have become noticeably more defined over this first week, as the teams heave Guy Walters on

tough going in the Camel Trophy

bridging ladders and push 2½ tons of laden Land Rover Discoverys up inclines that are normally only seen in cartoons. However, the fitness has a price. Trench foot, viral infections, sunburn and even flu have been treated by the convoy's doctor.



struggles back on to the road; some inclines are normally only seen in cartoons

The gross mugginess of the jungle is alien to many teams, including the British. John Leach and William Tapley arrived in Balikaapan on the far east of Borneo, expecting it to be hot, but not fried-eggson-a-bonnet sweltering. Nevertheless, they managed to

626

pack the Discovery with a speedy efficiency. The sight of nearly 40 Carnel-branded Land Rovers was unusual for a hotel car park, and especially so for the local children, who thronged around each car demanding trophy stickers. Teenage girls who had

their pictures taken with team members sported grins normally reserved for pop stars.

After a day of special tasks, upon which the mildly competitive element of this event s based, the convoy started its 1,150-mile journey. Leach and Tapley had wired in a stereo,

THE NEW

MAZDA

as team members stood up to their chests in the fetid river. peration on to the ferry. Attempting to stay clean is near impossible. Mud cakes us and the vehicle floor, old boil-in-the-bags float in the mud and litter luggage lockers in this in-car quagmire. It

feels a bit like the car I drive. Despite appearances, the Discovery performs excellently. On Wednesday, Tapley gunned the vehicle through crater-lined roads at an extraordinary pace. Then at the end of the day, he nearly

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